



May 2013 Ohio League Leader Updates

Contents:

1.
LWVO Convention Highlights
2.
Support Congressional Medal to Alice Paul
3.
LWVO Congratulates Ohio Chief Justice O'Connor on Judicial Reform Proposals
4.
LWV Ohio is accepting MLD applications - deadline May 31st!
5.
The IRS controversy & the importance of having a non-partisan policy

1. LWVO Convention Highlights

Thank you to all the League members from across Ohio who attended state Convention! And a special thanks to the many League volunteers who made the event a success!

The 60th League of Women Voters Ohio Convention was held at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Cleveland on May 4th and 5th.

The routine business of the Convention was accomplished with little excitement: [election of officers](#) and passage of the budget. Program and, in particular, fracking generated more discussion as discussed below.

However, for most delegates and guests, the high point of the Convention was the speakers, workshops, caucuses and tables of interest.

We will do our best to summarize some of the highlights, below. Feel free to share your favorite part of convention or your photos by emailing lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org, and we will share some of them on our website and in the next *Voter*.

[Click here](#) to view the Convention Program and Workbook

[Click here](#) to view photos from Convention

[Click here](#) to read workshop and session summaries and for links to materials

2. Support Congressional Medal to Alice Paul

6.
Update Your
Officers
in the LWVUS
Database & LWV
Ohio Office

7.
June all-member
conference call

8.
August regional
meetings

9.
LWVUS Agriculture
Study coming soon

At Convention, our Delegates requested that the LWVO Board take action to support the effort sponsored by N.J. Rep. Jon Rumson to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Alice Paul in recognition of her role in the women's suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women. [Click here](#) to read LWVO's letter to LWVUS requesting their support.

3. LWVO Congratulates Ohio Chief Justice O'Connor on Judicial Reform Proposals

On May 9, 2013 Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor announced an Eight Point Proposal for Strengthening Judicial Elections and invited public feedback. [Click here](#) to read the Chief Justice's full announcement.

Several days before Chief Justice O'Connor formally announced her proposal, the Chief Justice shared details of the plan with the League. The League congratulated the Chief Justice on her effort to stimulate discussion of this important topic - [Click here](#) to read our press release. LWVO will be evaluating the proposal and providing feedback to the Chief Justice later this summer.

4. LWV Ohio is accepting MLD applications- deadline May 31st!

We invite your League to join the MLD program today - and make those dreams of increased membership in your League come true!

Please click to see the local League [application form](#), as well as the [overview of the MLD program](#).

To launch the program, participating Leagues' MLD Teams will attend a two-day training session in central Ohio on June 22-23, 2013. The 2-day training will be provided at no cost to your League except for a registration fee of \$25 for each MLD Team member.

After the training, participating Leagues MLD Teams will receive ongoing coaching and support from their LWV Ohio coach trained by LWVUS to support your team

assisted by a Ruth S. Shur Fellow (LWVUS National Coach).

The mission of the League of Women Voters has never been more needed - and growing our membership and developing leaders will increase Leagues' impact in our communities. We hope you will take advantage of this special opportunity. We encourage you to communicate with your board as soon as possible. **The deadline for applying for the MLD program is May 31, 2013 - and applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.**

For questions or further information contact, please contact Meg Flack, LWV Ohio's MLD Coordinator at mflack@columbus.rr.com or 614.235.5993.

5. The IRS controversy & the necessity of having a non-partisan policy

If you've picked up a newspaper recently or watched TV news, you've heard about the controversy in Washington, DC, over the IRS targeting applications for tax exempt status based on the organization's politics. While we certainly do not condone the way in which the IRS appears to have selectively reviewed applications, it is a reminder that the IRS does review nonpartisan organization and that it is important to having a strong and meaningful nonpartisan policy. Does your League review its non-partisan policy annually? For sample non-partisan policies from LWVO, [click here](#) and from LWVUS, [click here](#). And [click here](#) for the non-partisan workshop power point presented at Convention.

6. Update Your Officers in the LWVUS Database & LWV Ohio Office

It is Annual Meeting time, and this means changes in League leadership. If your League has elected or appointed new officers, please be sure to update this information in the LWVUS member database and please also email a copy to the Ohio League office. It is vital that we know how to contact your League's leadership. Questions? Contact Betty Taira at membership@lww.org for questions about the LWVUS Database. Email updates

to the Ohio League office at lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org.
Thank you!

7. June All-Member Conference call

Join us for our monthly LWVO all-member conference call held on the first Tuesday of the month at 12 noon. June's call will feature a round-up of action in the Statehouse. Call in to hear about LWVO testimony and lobbying on League issues and ask our lobbyists your questions about what is happening the state legislature.

June All-Member Call

Topic: Ohio Statehouse Round-up

When: Tuesday, June 4th, 12pm-1pm

Call:866-740-1260, PIN 4691505#

8. August Regional Meetings

LWVO will once again be hosting regional meetings around the state in August. Please let us know by June 15th if your League has any events planned for Saturdays in August, so that we can try to schedule regional meetings at a convenient time. Please call the state office at 614-469-1505 or email lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org to let us know about dates to avoid. Thank you.

9. LWVUS Agriculture Study coming soon

As a reminder, LWVUS will be issuing study materials for the Agriculture Study later this summer, and the study will be due in April 2014. In order to help Ohio Leagues prepare, the state League is working to identify helpful resources, including potential speakers, on this topic. Is there someone in your League who has an interest in agriculture and could help us gather information? If so, please have them contact Carrie at 614-469-1505 or cdavis@lwvohio.org.

League Leaders:

To help keep your members informed, please consider forwarding this weekly message to your local members. Please note that this is an internal communication that provides both announcements and opportunities meant only for your members and League, as well as updates on important news and events. This message should not be posted in its entirety on League social media channels or websites.

