

May 2015



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE CINCINNATI AREA
THE VOTER

News

- Events
- Celebrate 150th anniversary of Juneteenth
- Measure local solar power online
- Seven LWVCA members attend 2015 Statehouse Day

Letters

- Final letter from current co-presidents
- American Flyer poem

Opinion

- Join the Martha B. Taft Society
- Abolish the death penalty in Ohio

Info

- Re-enroll in the LWVCA Kroger Community Rewards

News

LWVCA events through May

The [LWVO Convention](#) is happening right now in Cincinnati. The convention runs [May 15-17](#) at the [Hyatt Regency, downtown](#).

Registration for the Annual Meeting begins at 5:15 p.m., Wednesday, May 20 at the [Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church](#) Social Room. [City Manager Harry Black](#) will speak at dinner.

Charter school forum held



A forum on charter schools was held on April 20 at the Clifton Recreation Center. The LWVCA Education Committee and co-sponsors organized the event, which about 100 people attended.

Measure local solar power online

Chris Moran, Program Development Committee Member



The Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) developed an interactive website to measure solar power at www.solar.oki.org. Click on *Discover Your Solar Potential*, enter an address, and select a roof of interest. The solar energy generating capacity of various sections of that roof will be listed. General information about solar rooftop installation is also available.

Celebrate 150th anniversary of Juneteenth

Chris Moran, Program Development Committee Member

In the March Voter, members discussed the legacy of slavery based on a PBS video titled [Slavery by Another Name](#). This year marks the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War and the ratification of the 13th Amendment. June is the time to highlight the first Juneteenth celebration.

Juneteenth is an annual African American freedom celebration. [Cincinnati's event](#) is held in the racially integrated community of Kennedy Heights and features historical reenactments, exhibits, craft demonstrations and music. It will be celebrated June 20 through 21 at Daniel Drake Park from noon to 9 p.m. on Saturday and 2:30 to 6 p.m. on Sunday.

The League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area (LWVCA) participates in this celebration of the end of legal slavery in the United States. LWVCA members staff an information booth at the festival and distribute information about scheduled events. It's a great opportunity to market the LWVCA. And it's fun. If you are interested in volunteering for a two-hour shift in the afternoon, contact Chris Moran. Or just come to the party. Your presence will be welcomed.

Seven LWVCA members attend 2015 Statehouse Day

Marlene Muse, Unit Coordinator

The League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area (LWVCA) was well-represented at Statehouse Day on March 31 in Columbus. LWVCA members Donald and Lucia Hudson, Jane Anderson, Mary Kercherval Short, Rose Kearney, Barbara Myers and Marlene Muse joined members from 15 other local leagues at this annual event sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Ohio (LWVO). Members network with each other, speak with their elected representatives and hear speakers on important LWVO issues.

“Education and Advocacy are critical tools in making democracy work, and today’s agenda reflects the League’s focus on urgent issues facing Ohio, including reproductive health rights, clean water, election reform, the state budget and public education,” said LWVO President Nancy Brown at the event’s inception. “Our goal is for each of you to leave today re-energized and focused on what you can do to continue to advocate on these and other issues.”

Rose Kearney and Mary Kercherval Short visited with aides of Senator Bill Seitz and Donald and Lucia Hudson met with newly elected Senator Cecil Thomas and his aide.

The morning session featured Cincinnati attorney Jennifer Branch, who advocates for women’s reproductive issues. An overview on legislation to keep chemical and farm run-off out of Lake Erie and its tributaries was given, concurrently.

Lunch in the statehouse atrium was followed by a presentation about restrictive voter access reform. LWVO was praised for their work on voter registration and access.

In the afternoon, there was a presentation on effective lobbying, as well as updates on redistricting, judicial and election reform, Common Core testing, charter schools, and school funding.

Statehouse Days is a great experience for league members, who appreciate the LWVO's dedication to organize the event.



2015 Statehouse Day Numbers

- 7 LWVCA members attended
- 15 LWVO leagues attended
- 12 LWVO lobbyist reports given

Letters

Final letter from current co-presidents

Helen and Don Rhoad, Co-Presidents



As our term as co-presidents winds to a close, we want to express our gratitude to the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area (LWVCA) for this opportunity to serve. We thank all of you who have been so supportive, supplied the board with ideas, helped to launch new projects, and maintained existing programs. The LWVCA activities are very dependent upon member volunteers, and we couldn't live up to our mission if so many were not there to complete the goals.

Please watch for more from the League of Women Voters of Ohio (LWVO), concerning voting registration, redistricting efforts, and judicial campaigns. Please join the LWVO email news list at www.lwvohio.org. You will receive regular updates concerning legislation and the LWVO.

Thank you for those volunteering under Nancy Dawley's leadership, at this weekend's convention. Please also thank Burton Roehr and her committee for the outstanding forum held April 20 about charter schools. Approximately 100 people attended the forum held at the Clifton Recreation Center, and the feedback was very positive. Questions concerning charter schools' finances and accountability were raised at the forum. If you are interested in pursuing this and other education topics, please tell the office or Burt.

The Investment Committee, led by Fred Heyse, is doing a wonderful job of managing the LWVCA financial resources and helping to grow them into an endowment fund.

This committee is made up of knowledgeable members who have been careful and thorough in applying our policies and procedures to the investment of LWVCA assets. If you have interest in this area, please contact the office.

As most of you know by now, our office manager, Becky Haltermon, has moved to Florida. We were blessed to have her fresh outlook and new ideas, will miss her, and wish her the best. Fortunately, the Human Resources Committee was able to act quickly and attract a number of promising candidates. The committee selected an especially qualified candidate in Hayley Day. On April 16, we welcomed her as our new office manager. Please stop in, introduce yourself, and offer assistance when possible.

In League,



2013-2015

Jeane Goings thanks Voter

An article about LWVCA Member Jeane Goings's recognition at Cincinnati City Hall was written in the April Voter.

What a nice article and a surprise! Thank you! I've always been interested in the political scene and thank Gloria Walker for introducing me to the League!

- Jeane Goings

American Flyer

*Poem by Bill Woods, Applied
Information Resources President*

Just sit back and let me tell you a tale
Of a unique way of delivering the mail.
Delivery to Congress needs a big show.
To land by gyrocopter is the way to go.
Regular mail just won't get a mention.
A gyrocopter landing did get attention.
A mailman went way beyond the norm

To make his case for campaign reform.
Some may find his copter stunt funny,
But he was protesting Fat Cat money.

Opinion

Join the Martha B. Taft Society

Melissa Currence, Carolyn Miller and Mary Kay Gardner, Martha B. Taft Society Members

We invite you to join us in becoming a member of the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area's (LWVCA) planned giving circle, the Martha B. Taft Society. The three of us have taken this step, and we hope you will too!

Planned giving is the act of making a commitment to give a major gift to a charitable organization, such as the LWVCA Education Fund, either over time or at death, as part of a donor's overall financial and estate planning.

With a planned gift to the LWVCA Education Fund, your legacy continues far into the future. Each planned gift guarantees that the League will be here to make democracy work in our community for generations to come.

If you have questions on why we decided to take this important step to ensure the future health of our League, please ask us.

There are many ways you can make a planned gift. It can be through a retirement account, bequest, will, or other assets. Talk to your financial adviser for more information. To make a planned gift, you will need LWVCA Education Fund Employer Identification Number (EIN): 31-6030294.

The Martha B. Taft Society is named for LWVCA's first president, who served from 1920-1922 and again in 1932-1934.

If you have made a planned gift to benefit LWVCA, we would love to recognize you! Contact VP of Development Melissa Currence at (513) 281-8683 or at fundraising@lwvcincinnati.org.

We'd love for you to join us! Thank you for your continued support of the League of Women Voters.



What is the Martha B. Taft Society?

LWVCA's planned giving circle for the Education Fund.

How do you contribute a planned gift?

Ask your financial adviser and use the LWVCA Education Fund EIN: 31-6030294.

Abolish the death penalty in Ohio

Hanna Carp, Hilltop North Unit

The League of Women Voters of Ohio (LWVO) has studied the death penalty for 18 months. In 2005, the LWVO positioned for the abolition of the Ohio death penalty, and in 2007, the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) followed.

Capital punishment is still an option in various states. Several states, including Massachusetts and Michigan, abolished the death penalty permanently.

It is urgent to consider a followup on the LWVO's position on the abolition of capital punishment, due to the current judge-imposed moratorium of the Ohio death penalty. The 2015 moratorium resulted in the manufacturing of chemicals for executions and their administration. [The Cincinnati Enquirer](#) reported this in late 2014.

The League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area (LWVCA) Hilltop North Unit wants to rekindle this subject. The unit plans to mobilize all of Ohio's individual leagues to permanently abolish capital punishment in the state.

This is the first in a series of death penalty articles for The Voter. Contact Hilltop North Unit to join the cause.

Info



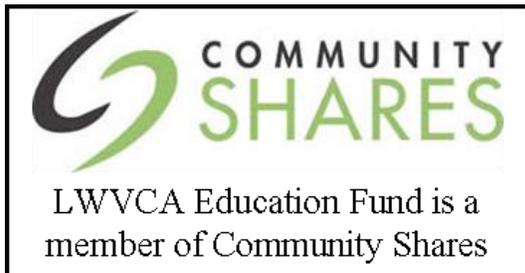
Fund the LWVCA while buying groceries

Re-enroll in LWVCA's [Kroger Community Rewards](#), each year, for the organization to receive a portion of your Kroger purchases

1. Visit www.kroger.com/communityrewards
2. Sign in or create an account
3. Click *Enroll Now*
4. Search for *League of Women Voters* or the account number 80874
5. Select League of Women Voters/Cincinnati/Education Fund
6. For assistance call the Kroger Community Rewards Support team at 1-866-221-4141 or the LWVCA office at (513) 281-VOTE (8683)

MAKING
DEMOCRACY WORK®

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, which encourages informed and active participation in government. Membership is open to women and men at least 18 years old. Call (513) 281-VOTE (8683) and [join us](#).



The League of Women Voters recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible decision making. The LWVCA seeks diverse membership, leadership and programs.

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