

LWVO League Leaders Update
June 23, 2010

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ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

****NEW** Joyce Grant Includes Pass-Through Money for Local Leagues to Host Community Meetings**

LWVOEF is pleased to announce that the new Joyce Foundation Grant provides funds to support Local League Town Hall/Community meetings on imPACT topics including local government accountability issues.

Local Leagues can access up to \$300 this fiscal year to host community meetings that meet the imPACT program criteria. For more information on accessing these funds, please contact the state office.

****NEW** LWV Ohio Lobby Corps Welcomes Karen Leith, Specialist in Death-Penalty Issues.**

The LWV-Ohio Lobby Corps is delighted to welcome Karen Leith, LWV-Hudson, as its newest member. Karen will specialize in death-penalty issues. She is currently working on this very important issue both as part of the Cleveland Diocesan Social Action Office and as a member of Ohioans to Stop Executions, of which LWV-Ohio is a member. "It is with pleasure, therefore,

that I take on this added responsibility as the LWV-Ohio specialist,” said Karen. You can contact her at KPL7@aol.com.

Following is Karen’s update on the issue:

The Kevin Keith case is another example of the deep flaws in our death-penalty system. With almost one execution scheduled a month, we must take more aggressive action to either move to a moratorium, or even better, abolish the death sentence in Ohio.

Execution updates:

- 1) In a rare move, the parole board recommended clemency for Richard Nields, and the governor agreed to grant clemency to Nields. If you have not done so already, please feel free to contact the governor thanking him for this step in the right direction (<http://www.governor.ohio.gov/Contact.aspx>).
- 2) Two somewhat new execution dates were set (one in February and one in March), so there is now one execution scheduled every month from now until March, except in December and January.
- 3) The petition for Kevin Keith – who is scheduled to be executed in September – is up online. To read more about the case or to sign the online petition, visit: www.kevinkeith.org The attorneys and media team would like people if possible to sign the online petition rather than a hard copy petition. Here is a case of evidence of innocence not presented at any trial.

LWV-Ohio Position: Capital Punishment

The LWVO supports the following:
(Adopted 2005)

1. Abolition of the death penalty.
2. A moratorium on use of the death penalty.

To read LWV-Ohio’s study of the death penalty, [click HERE](#).

****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. **You do NOT need a password to access the Members Only Section.**

The consensus questions were provided to all members in latest *Ohio Voter* Newsletter and the March 24 League Leaders Update. If you need any further information about this process, please feel free to contact the state office.

MEMBERSHIP

****NEW** LWVUS Convention**

Thank you to every member who attended the LWVUS Convention in June 2010. According to comments made to state office staff, it was a great convention with interesting topics covered and opportunities to network

Next week we will issue a Convention Edition of the League Leader Update to provide you with a snapshot of the convention and share comments of attendees. If you have any thoughts to share on your convention experience, please let us know at lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org by June 29, 2010.

****NEW** PMP Rate and Due Dates**

As we prepare to start a new fiscal year on July 1, 2010, please be reminded that the LWVO Per-Member-Payment Rate is \$25.00 per action of the 2009 Convention.

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 2011 State Convention.

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

****Reminder** 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 lwvinfo@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.

ADMINISTRATION

****NEW** Phonathon Update**

As we approach our new fiscal year, we have NOT met our Phonathon goal so we need your continued help. Many local Leagues have implemented drives, made phone calls and other requests to their members to support Phonathon 2010 and for that, **we thank you**. With the generous support thus far, we have raised just over \$26,000 toward our goal of \$41,000. To meet the budget passed in April, we still need to raise an additional \$15,000.

Recently we mailed a post card solicitation to members who have yet to contribute to the Phonathon 2010 drive. Please do all you can to reinforce the message that support for Phonathon helps us to maintain our role as a source for voter service and reliable, nonpartisan information.

It is not too late to send in your donation! For your convenience we have included the donation form below.

******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 m- Columbus, Ohio 43215
1-877-LWV-OHIO (toll free)

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

\$ 450 \$ 360 \$ 270 \$ 180 \$ 90 \$ _____

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

Name (please print) _____

By credit card: Make a secure credit-card donation online at www.lwvohio.org



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

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

You can complete the donation form which is attached by going to our website to make a secure online donation through PayPal. Just click on [the League Donate Page](#) on our website. Then click on the button for either LWVO or LWVOEF from that page to make your donation.

****NEW** WELCOME MICHELE MARTIN TO THE LEAGUE STAFF**

Please extend your welcome to Michele Martin, who was recently hired as the Membership/Office Manager for the League. Michele, who has worked as a temporary in our office since April, brings more than 20 years of office management experience to her new role.

We are delighted to have her as part of the team and look forward to her becoming better acquainted with League members across the state. Michele can be reached at 614-469-1505 or lwvinfo@lwvohio.org.

****NEW** LLEF Statements Sent to Treasurers**

Local League Education Fund Statements for the end of the last quarter have been sent to local Treasurers on file for the LLEFs held by LLWVOEF. We have asked that Treasurers verify the account balances on file. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the state office.

****Reminder** 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!

****REMINDER** Position Announcements**

The LWVO Education Fund is seeking a part-time Program Manager for the impACT Program. This position is a 24 month grant-funded project for an independent contractor. The position can be carried out from any location within the state of Ohio with the expectation of periodic visits to the Columbus LWVOEF office. For more information the position, please refer to the position description by [clicking here](#) or going to the League website at

<http://www.lwvohio.org/site.cfm/About-LWV-Ohio/Position-Announcements.cfm>

Applications will be accepted through June 30, 2010. Resumes can be sent to leg@lwvohio.org. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

****NEW** Warm Thoughts to Anne Nelson**

Please extend your thoughts to longtime impACT Contractor Anne Nelson in the recent loss of her sister Susan Burgess. Susan succumbed with family and sister by her side. Anne is a long time League member and was the first impACT Program Coordinator. Although Anne is moving on to new opportunities, she continues to be a part of our family. If you would like to offer your condolences, please see her address below.

Anne Nelson
330 West Fifth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43201

Mark your calendars now--Dates to Remember

State Board Retreat

June 27-28, 2010, Dublin, Ohio

Office Closed to observe of Independence Day

**July 2, 2010 3PM-5PM
July 5, 2010 all day**

LWVUS Convention-Atlanta Georgia

June 11-15, 2010

LWVO Convention 2011-Maumee Bay State Park

May 13-15, 2011

**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**