



SPOTLIGHT ON....2011 Regional Meetings

On Saturday, **February 26, 2011**, the League of Women Voters of Ohio will be bringing a regional meeting to your area. For those who are new to the League, here is a brief explanation of regional meetings.

Regional meetings are held by the LWVO to promote idea exchanges on a particular topic that is of interest to your general membership. All members of the local Leagues in a geographical area invited.

Regional meetings are a great way to meet members from your area who are not in your League. These connections and networking further strengthen the League at the local, state and national levels.

This year we are emphasizing the idea exchange in the context of advocacy. The League does a great job with Voter Services, but we have heard that local Leagues are sometimes not as comfortable with advocacy. Many are already engaging in advocacy by writing a letter to the editor and building relationships with public officials. Many others might be interested in advocacy but are not certain of the steps that need to be taken.

The regional meeting would be the opportunity for an open dialogue with each other regarding approaches and tactics that have been taken and lessons learned from them. A LWVO Board member will be at each of the six meetings to facilitate the discussion.

As a venue is confirmed for each meeting, the local League leaders will be contacted with the exact time of the meeting, LWVO board member and directions. The information will then distributed to the members.

The following is the region and the local Leagues of each regional meeting:

Northwest	Bowling Green, Perrysburg, Tiffin & Toledo/Lucas County
Southwest & Oxford	Cincinnati Area, Clermont County, Darke County, Greater Dayton
Southeast	Athens, Chillicothe-Ross, Marietta & Portsmouth/Scioto
Central	Delaware County, Lima, Marion and Metropolitan Columbus
North	Ashtabula, Cleveland Area, Cuyahoga Area, Geauga County, Lake County, Oberlin & Shaker Hts.
Northeast	Akron, Canton, Greater Youngstown, Hudson, Kent, Northern Portage, Tallmadge, Trumbull County & Wayne County

There is no fee for this event, though donations are welcome to help defray the costs.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jean Koznarek, jkozlwv@aol.com or the LWVO office, lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org

By Jean Koznarek