



November, 2016

[Click for Voter's Guide and information for November 8 General Election!](#)



LWVAA Upcoming Events

November 3, 2016

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Message from the President

This past month has been eventful, with election information dominating the news and social media. Polls have shown the lead shift between the presidential candidates from week to week amid the continuous accusations, slurs, and attacks as to who is the better candidate for president. Most people agree that they have never seen the degree of negativity and dearth of substance in any previous election.

Throughout this campaign, the book published 25 years ago entitled *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* by Robert Fulghum has frequently come to mind for me. His list of ideas to live by include some that could make the election season more palatable for us all. For example, "Play fair; Don't hit people; Put things back where you found them; Clean up your own mess; Don't take things that aren't yours; Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody." These rules could easily be adapted to the world of politics.

On the positive side, I can't recall an election season where more effort was made to register voters and educate them on the process of voting, as well as provide information to make informed decisions. Your league has been on the forefront to educate, advocate for and inform voters. Thanks to the organizational efforts of Jackie Derrow, LWVAA Voter Service Chair, almost 250 voters were registered in the Akron Area.

Along with the Hudson and Tallmadge leagues, the

This meeting is for Board Members only

November 7, 2016

Postmark deadline for absentee ballots!

November 8, 2016

VOTE! Ohio General Election

[Customized information from LWV by state and by topic](#)



December 10, 2016



HOLIDAY BRUNCH

Sheraton Suites
1989 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls
10:30am-12:30pm

Co-sponsored with Hudson and Tallmadge Leagues

Bliss Institute of Applied Politic and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a well-received candidate forum was held October 6 at Cuyahoga Falls High School. About 120 attendees met with county council, state representative and senate, and judicial candidates. Six thousand printed voter guides were distributed in the Akron Area to libraries, community centers and other locations where voters may not have access to computers, or just prefer the print version of the online voter guide, VOTE411. See Jackie's article for more about the LWVAA's work this election season.

I sometimes wonder, "Is there life outside of politics?" In Northeastern Ohio, many sports fans are experiencing a possibility that has never occurred in their lifetimes – a World Series Championship. At this writing, the underdog Cleveland Indians are ahead of the Chicago Cubs three games to two in the World Series. Also, the 2016 NBA champions, the Cleveland Cavaliers have won their first three games of the 2016-2017 season.

Even those of us who are not die-hard sports fans can be drawn in by the success of our teams. And a lesson may be found here that we could apply to politics: working together toward a common goal makes for an exciting journey and can lead to success that one person alone cannot achieve.
Barbara Hunsicker
President

Voters Guide and Voting Information on VOTE411.ORG

Submitted by Jackie Darrow

Please go to our online voter guide VOTE411.org and you'll find it's as easy to use as 1, 2, 3.

- 1) Type in your address and press enter;
- 2) click on the green bar that reads "Get personalized information on candidates and issues;" and
- 3) click on the blue bar that reads "Go to My Races"

If you follow those steps, then you'll be in business. You'll see a line up of candidates and their responses to questions posed by the League that conforms to the races for which you're eligible to vote.

Click [here](#) for updates on registration and the speaker for this annual event

Committee Updates

Voter Services

Submitted by Jackie Darrow

Voter Services Chair

As Barbara's letter expressed, early October was a very busy time for us! On the voter registration side, the days leading up to the October 11 registration deadline were among the most fruitful for helping people initially register and/or update their addresses. There is something compelling about the "last chance" message. [Note to self: For the future we need to heavily staff for the last week preceding an election - especially a general election.] All told our League team of volunteers registered and updated about 250 individuals which is something to be proud of.

Our awareness campaign for VOTE411.org included: letters to all of you; our October 19 letter to the Editor of the Beacon; announcements in most of the weekly Leader publications; city-wide distribution of the Voter Guide and VOTE411.org information cards; and new for this year, our Ed Fund-funded bus campaign. Buses with signs carrying the League and VOTE411.org logos have been circulating through the major Akron routes up and down Market St., Arlington Rd., etc. from October 8 through election day, November 8. Let us know if you spot one! In future years we want to continue building recognition for VOTE411.org as voters' one-stop shop for election information. Your contributions will help us do more!

If you're having difficulty with the site or one of the races you should be seeing isn't found on your personalized ballot of races, please contact [LWVAA](#). Even though LWVUS has been using [VOTE411.org](#) for nearly a decade, this is our first General Election using it (we did use it for the primary) so there is a possibility there could be a need for a fix.

Note that candidates input their own responses - we don't alter anything they have written. All candidates were given many opportunities to respond, so it was their choice if there is no response from a candidate.

Voter Coalition Efforts to Reassure Voters that Ohio Elections are Fair

For nearly a century, the League's members have worked tirelessly to ensure that elections in this country are free, fair, and credible. Thanks to our work, we know voters who cast their ballots do so with the confidence that their votes will count.

The League is obligated to set the record straight so that voters across the country have the real facts. **Our response is a new social media campaign: "I know my vote will count."** Over the remaining weeks of this election, we urge you to join us in sharing the message, "I'm voting, and I know my vote will count."

We'll be sharing photos with "I voted" stickers and other social media showcasing our get-out-the-vote efforts, and hope you will help us by joining in. Find sample language and social media posts [here](#).

On October 18, 2016, the Ohio Voter Rights Coalition (of which LWV Ohio is a member) held a telephone press briefing with Ohio reporters to address recent concerns about the potential for elections to be "rigged" or bad actors interfering with the process.

Here is a [link](#) to the joint press release: "Voter Advocates Reassure Voters that Ohio Elections are Fair, Urge People with Concerns to use Ohio Election Protection Hotline"

In addition, LWVO created a [Voter Q&A infographic](#): "How do I know Ohio's election is secure?" that lists all the layers of protections built into Ohio elections to protect it from tampering.



During the latter weeks of October several League members are serving as Observers at the Board of Elections, assuring the voting process goes smoothly and that provisional ballots are only issued when appropriate. And at least two of us will serve as Precinct Election Officials on November 8. I encourage anyone who is able to volunteer for these roles in the future - it's a good way to experience democracy in action.

Once again, thanks to everyone who helped out this year: Karen Barta, Jessie Coffey, Angela Cooper, Jodie DeLematre, John Fitzgerald, Carla Goar, Laura Hunsicker, Maryanne Jopperi, Ardith Keck, Karen Merlitti, Michelle Mostow, Jean Questel, Arrye Rosser and Susan Vogelsang. It takes a village!

Communications

Submitted by Jessie Coffey
Communications Chair

Did you vote early? You can now use our "I Voted" Facebook filter to display over your profile picture and show your pride for voting! [Download your profile filter](#), and share it widely with your friends and community.

LWV Ohio is hiring!

LWVO is growing the office staff, to provide local Leagues with even better customer service. They are currently accepting applications for:

- Legislative Public Policy Intern
- Voter Service Intern
- Communications & Marketing Intern

Find credentials and experience of the Judicial candidates for 11/8 Election

EARN 5% CASH BACK
for Your Non-Profit Organization!

GAVE OVER \$190,000
Cash Back to Local Non-Profit Organizations in 2015!

Acme Cash Back Time

Submitted by Janice Jacobs

It's time to start saving your Acme tapes. Once again this year the fine folks at Acme Fresh Market are supporting the Community Cash Back program. This year the qualifying dates are: 08-11-16 thru 12-31-16.

To get the full scoop you can go to the [Acme Website](#) which explains that we receive 5% on eligible purchases and also outlines what items qualify as eligible. Acme brand items and many others are shown, including 2 new items: Cape Covelle seafood/fish and Nostimo yogurt. These are 2 popular brands in my household and I recommend both!

At the end of each register tape, during the period shown above, the Community Cash Back amount is totaled. Just send those Acme tapes to me and I'll do the rest: Janice Jacobs, PO Box 26, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222-0026

This has been a small but consistent fundraiser for League since 2002, and is easy!



[Join us today](#) to support democracy, nonpartisan political action, and voter rights in your community.

- Part-time Office & Program Associate
- Part-time Development Campaign Director

Do you know someone with a passion for civic engagement who is looking to put their talents to work at an Ohio non-profit? Please share these job descriptions with your networks and encourage good candidates to apply. Full job descriptions are posted on the LWVO website [here](#).



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lwvaa@lwvaa.org

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