

LWVO League Leaders Update

November 24, 2009

Happy Thanksgiving!

Deidra, Charisse, Anne, Mary Helen, Linda, Scott and Carolyn
Wish our League family a Safe a Happy Holiday.

Today's Topics:

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

****NEW** Judicial Selection Conference Update**

****NEW** LWVUS Issues Commentary on Citizens United v FEC case.**

MEMBERSHIP

****Reminder** MRI Webinar offered on increasing membership on December 1, 2009.**

****Reminder** Updating Your Rosters and Leaders in the LWVUS Database.**

ADMINISTRATION

****NEW** Thank you to participants in conference calls on Development and Law Suit Monitoring.**

****NEW** LWVUS Issues Guidance for League Online communication**

****NEW** From LWVUS: Program Planning Webinar: View It Now Online and Register for an Encore Session**

****Reminder** Second Quarter Per Member Payments Due by December 31, 2009.**

ADVOCACY & EDUCATION

****NEW** Judicial Selection Conference Update**

Based on the input from a broad spectrum of stakeholders, experts and interested parties attending the November Judicial Selection conference concluded that change is needed. The co-conveners of "A Forum on Judicial Selection: A Time for Action", the League of Women Voters of Ohio Education Fund, the Ohio State Bar Association and Ohio Supreme Court Justice Thomas Moyer, concluded that there is support for some form of an appointive-retention system.

The next steps are to propose a specific plan to the partner organizations for formal consideration. The conveners said that while the specifics of the plan will take time to develop, based on what they heard at the forum any plan will have the following characteristics:

- The appointment process will be open and transparent.
- Any nominating commission will be representative of the diversity of Ohio's population and will include multiple appointing authorities.

- Some form of a public education component will be included.
- Retention elections will ensure that voters still have a voice.

The conference gained significant coverage in Ohio newspapers in the days leading up to and immediately following the conference. [Click here](#) or go to <http://www.lwvohio.org/site.cfm/In-The-News/News-Articles.cfm> to read some of the coverage on the conference and its objectives.

League Commentary on *Citizens United v. FEC* Case before the Supreme Court

The League of Women Voters of the United States released an [opinion piece](#) the week of November 16, 2009 arguing that the impending Supreme Court decision in *Citizens United v. FEC* has the potential to allow corporate wealth to dominate our elections. Also, [click here](#) to read the *amicus* brief the League filed in July.

MEMBERSHIP

****Reminder** MRI Webinar offered on increasing membership on December 1, 2009.**

All local League Membership Chairs, MRI League Chairs, MRI Coaches and any interested LL Presidents have been invited to join us on **December 1, at 4:00pm** for a webinar on the MRI (Membership Recruitment Initiative) segment, "**How to Make the Ask**".

For some League members, asking someone to become a member is fairly easy, though not necessarily second nature. For others, the thought of asking someone to join causes sweaty palms and a stutter. And for others still, the idea that a person needs to be invited to become a member is foreign ("Because of course they want to join.") Through a **question and answer period, role playing and a presentation**, Kelly McFarland-Strattman and Cheryl Graeve, of the MRI team at the National League office, will **provide many creative and easy to use "tools"** to make us successful in increasing membership.

To sign up for the webinar go to <http://lwv.na4.acrobat.com/mri/event/registration.html>

***Reminder* Update Your Membership Roster and Leaders Info in the Database**

Don't forget to update your Local League roster by **January 31, 2010**. PMP calculations are based upon your roster therefore please make every effort to make certain they are accurate.

It is also imperative that we have the current and up to date information on Local League officers. If you have changed officers or there has been a change in contact information such as phone number or email address, please forward that information to the state office.

If you have questions about updating your lists or would like to schedule a training session or need help in accessing the database, please contact Charisse Armstead in the state office at lwvinfo@lwvohio.org or 1-877-LWV- OHIO or email Lela Sallis in the LWVUS office at database@lwv.org.

ADMINISTRATION

****NEW** Thank you to participants in conference calls on Development and Law Suit Monitoring.**

Thank you to all of the Leagues members who were able to participate in the conference call opportunities regarding Lawsuit Monitoring and Phonathon. Your participation was greatly appreciated and helpful as we continue to move forward on these important projects. It is our sincere hope these efforts will enhance our relationships with local boards of elections and generate needed support to continue to provide valuable League services to our state and local communities.

If you have further questions or were unable to participate in the calls, we are available to hold one-on-one discussions to bring you up to speed. Scott Britton is the contact for the Lawsuit Monitoring Project and can be reached at 1-877-LWV-OHIO or sbritton@wowway.com. Rosanne Thomas, Phonathon Chair can be reached at rosanne.thomas@gmail.com or 1-330-656-2383

LWVUS Issues Guidance for League Online communication

LWV Online: Web, Blogs and Social Media Guidance for State and Local Leagues

The LWVUS communications team has written and received approval for the first version of **LWV Online: Web, Blogs and Social Networking Guidance** for state and local Leagues. While not official policy, this guide is intended to provide support for state and local Leagues as they establish a presence online, helping Leagues avoid common pitfalls, and arming leaders with information that will hopefully provide the confidence and freedom needed to begin experimenting with a Website, blogs and other social media.

Although each League's needs and capabilities will be different, with a basic understanding of some of the benefits, trends and pitfalls of online organizing, Leagues will be able to confidently manage an online presence and, ideally, maximize visibility, engage members, connect with other Leagues online, and attract new members and supporters. As the world of social media is constantly evolving, these guidelines are subject to change, so stay tuned for future editions. For more information, contact Martha Patzer at mpatzer@lww.org.

The actual PDF is available at

<http://www.lww.org/Content/ContentGroups/Membership/ToolsForLeaders/OnlineGuidelines11.2009.pdf>

****NEW** From LWVUS: Program Planning Webinar: View It Now Online and Register for an Encore Session**

Members can now view the November 18th Program Planning Webinar online [here](#) or paste <https://admin.na4.acrobat.com/a831402129/p87588399/> into your web browser. Because of the overwhelming, positive response to that session, the LWVUS will host a second Program Planning webinar on Wednesday, December 2, at 3 pm ET. Please [click here](#) or paste <https://admin.na4.acrobat.com/a831402129/programplanning2/event/registration.html> into your web browser to register. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Each session can only accommodate 100 participants, so we ask that you register only if you are certain of your attendance. Learn more about Program Planning, the process by which state and local Leagues

and ILOs make recommendations concerning League Program. For additional information or questions on Program Planning, email progplan@lwv.org.

****Reminder** Second Quarter Per Member Payments Due by December 31, 2009.**

Thank you to Local Leagues who have submitted their PMP payments in a timely manner. This is a friendly reminder that if you are paying your PMP in monthly installments, your next payment will be due by December 31, 2009. If you have any questions regarding your PMP balances, please contact our accountant Linda D. Lalley at fund@lwvohio.org or Toll Free at 1-877-LWVO-OHIO

Mark your calendars now--Dates to Remember

Office Closed for Thanksgiving

November 26-27, 2009

State LWVOEF Board Meeting

***January 8-9, 2010
March 12-13, 2010***

Roster Updates Due to LWVUS

January 31, 2009

Statehouse Day/ Council

April 14, 2009

LWVUS Convention- Atlanta Georgia

June 11-15, 2010

***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, 3rd floor***

***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