

## **LWV Cuyahoga Area Activities Report from the Chapters**

### **Bay Village**

- Participated in two Mock Elections
  - Gathered signatures for HB 194 referendum
  - Held a Candidates Forum with student council at high school
  - Organizing party for November 29 to celebrate Joan Hirsh's life.
- Barbara Ebright*

### **Fairview Park**

#### *Membership Meetings*

- Sept. 17, (co-sponsored) speaker Regina Sillasen, director of Fairview Park's Senior Life Office
- Oct. 3, speaker Edward J. Altmann, retired architect on Afghanistan
- Nov. 19, speaker, George Newman, Fairview Park Citizen of the Year
- Dec. 2, Christmas potluck

#### *Candidate Forums*

- October 6, forum for mayoral and city council candidates.
- Oct 12 & 13, participated in Mock Candidate Forum and Election

*Nikki Salupo*

### **Heights (CH-UH)**

#### *-- Voters Guide*

The fall 2011 Heights Voters' Guide was produced in cooperation with FutureHeights and was published in the *Heights Observer* (printed and online). Gale Jacobsohn collected, organized, and entered the candidate information. Deanna Bremer Fisher, Executive Director of FutureHeights and a League member, took charge of publication.

#### *--Candidates Night*

October 6, Close to 150 people attended Candidates Night, which was also presented in cooperation with FutureHeights. The audience heard from candidates for the Cleveland Heights City Council, University Heights City Council, and the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Board of Education races. Deanna Bremer Fisher moderated. We heard many appreciative remarks after the event ended. The event was videotaped and can be accessed online. Fern Jennings and Gina Cheverine co-chaired organization of the event.

#### *--Observer Corps*

Monthly reports are published through the Heights Observer for CH & UH city councils, CH-UH school board, and the Library board (print and online).

Fall 2011

*--Voter Registration / absentee ballots / HB 194*

Heights member Susan Alcorn organized numerous voter registration opportunities at the public library and local grocery stores. After the voter registration deadline was past, Susan, along with other volunteers, continued to provide voter service by passing out absentee ballot applications at the same venues. Several members helped gather signatures for the referendum to stay HB 194.  
*Maryann Barnes*

**Hillcrest**

*Social:*

Three of us began the fall by taking Jean Gianelos out for lunch to support her as she cared for her husband during his long-time illness.

*Mock Elections:*

Members volunteered at the Mock Elections at Brecksville High October 5<sup>th</sup> and Brush High October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Candidate Forums:*

--We held a forum for Beachwood School Board & City Council candidates on October 13<sup>th</sup>. Attendance was approximately 31, and several candidates were missing. The good news is we made several new contacts for the future, and have a new venue of doing the forum in a school facility. Ten Beachwood High School students attended. The Beachwood Patch Editor Nikki Ferrell --a first--wrote articles before and after the forum plus she taped the candidates opening statements and posted them on the Beachwood Patch's Website.

-- We held another forum for South Euclid-Lyndhurst School Board and the South Euclid Mayoral & City Council races on Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Brush High School's Cafeteria. Fourteen out of 16 candidates attended. Advanced Government students worked as volunteers on a variety of tasks. Attendance: 67. Co-sponsors were South Euclid- Lyndhurst PTA Council, Brush High PTSA, South Euclid-Lyndhurst Teachers Association, Friends of the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Library, and the American Association of University Women (AAUW).

-- We hosted a Meet & Greet before the South Euclid-Lyndhurst Forum for the 3 Candidates running for South Euclid Municipal Court.

*Issues Presentation:*

We held a panel discussion on ballot issues for the Heights-Hillcrest-Lyndhurst Branch of AAUW on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Maryann Barnes, Carol Gibson and myself served as panelists. Future collaborations were discussed.

*Education and Advocacy:*

Some members collected HB 194 signatures. For a week at a senior citizen complex and church we registered voters and passed out absentee ballot applications. We are now assisting filling out the ballots when asked for help.

*Roz Peters*

### **Lakewood**

- Registered voters at the Lakewood Art Festival
- Lakewood resumed our Chapter meetings in September. We meet at various Lakewood restaurants on the second Tuesday of each month, usually at 1 PM.
- We co-sponsored a nonpartisan discussion about SB5, Issue 2 at West Shore UU Church on September 19th. This forum was well attended. We distributed LWV bookmarks and Mail-in ballot forms.
- We attended and participated in a Lakewood City Charter Forum on October 13th at Lakewood Library, and wrote a letter to the editor to local media supporting the Charter changes.
- We held Lakewood's Candidates Night on Oct 18 with 15 of the 16 candidates for city and school board positions in attendance. The attendance was between 55 and 60 people.
- We distributed mail-in ballot information to our main and branch Lakewood libraries, placed them in some apartment lobbies, and some churches.
- Individuals have collected signatures on the redistricting petitions.

*Kathy Kosiorek and Madeline Carr*

### **Rocky River**

- We had about 100 attending candidates' night, which I thought was super considering the weather was awful.
- R.R. also co-sponsored with Fairview Park an evening program on Afghanistan with the focus on architecture.

*Sally Ebling*

### **Westlake/NO**

- We passed out LWV literature, registered voters, passed out absentee ballots, and information on the issues from a table at the following places and times:

Westlake recreation Center on October 1- Jean Seasholtz, Anne Engle

N Olmsted Library on Oct 8 - Lois Van Auken, Jean Prendergast, Beryl Peck, Marion Partezana

Porter Library on Oct 3 and 4 - Carole Koscielny, Sandi ODell, Helga Susemihl, Jean Seasholtz

- Various people helped with the mock elections.
- We had two meetings to plan and discuss the above at local restaurants.

*Carole Koscielny and Sandi O'Dell*