



December 3, 2024

THE HUDSON VOTER

Hello LWVH Members!

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU at D'Angelos Ristorante 7995 Darrow Road, Twinsburg at our Holiday Social on Wednesday, December 11th 6:30 p.m.! This is a fun (and delicious!) way for LWVH members to connect and chat!

The cost for the dinner is \$39. **Your payment is your RSVP. (Regrettably, we cannot welcome walk-ins for this event.)** Please **send your checks by December 8th** to: LWVH; P.O. Box 331; Hudson, OH 44236.

OR, you can RSVP using [Paypal](#) (\$41 to cover fees) Just click here: [PAYPAL](#). Then hit "SEND" and follow the instructions. It will ask "What's this paying for?" Type: Holiday Social. If neither of these work for you, contact [Connie Blohm](#); or me. We will figure it out. Here are some photos from our Holiday Social 2 years ago:



We have been talking about having dues paid by the end of December 2024. A little clarification: League of Women Voters United States is changing the membership process. Currently, members pay their dues to the local leagues they send the per-member-payment (PMP) to LWVUS. Member dues are split between local, state and national. Beginning January 2025, members will pay their dues directly to LWVUS via new

membership software. National will send the appropriate portion of dues to local and state leagues. (This happens immediately, FYI.) We are asking you to pay your dues by the end of 2024 simply to help us manage our funds and better forecast expenditures. Your assistance is greatly appreciated!

Tracey Mackay
presidentlwvhudson@gmail.com
330-608-5264

Calendar of Events

December 6, 7, 13, & 14, 5pm to 7:30pm Winter Wonderland at Case Barlow Farm. Vote for the LWVH tree! The theme is: Women's Suffrage. Take some time to visit. It's very festive!! casebarlow.com/wonderland



January 13, 7pm, Board Meeting, 5230 Knollshire Dr. This is a change!

January 16, 7pm, LWVH Book Club. See below for more information.

January 27, Monday, 6:30pm, Meeting with City Manager, Thom Sheridan. We'll meet at Lorann Murphy's home to talk about Hudson Happenings. The address is 2580 Brunswick Lane. RSVPs will be requested closer to the date. *Only members who have paid their dues may attend.*

Thursday, February 13, 10:30am, Positions and Procedures Review, at the Hudson Library. This is our opportunity to give our input to LWV Ohio for Planning Positions and Priorities for the upcoming two years.

February 27, 7pm. Climate Sustainability Transportation Follow-Up. Hudson High School Media Center

March 3, 7pm, Board Meeting, 5230 Knollshire Drive.

March 13, 6:30pm - 7:30pm Sunshine Meeting Hudson Library.

Sunshine Week is March 16-22 and is a nonpartisan collaboration among groups of journalism, civic, education, government and private sectors that sheds a light on the importance of public records and open

government. In previous years, LWVH has received a proclamation from the city for our work on Sunshine Laws. Whether we receive a proclamation this year or not, we would like as many members as possible to attend the city council meeting during Sunshine Week (March 18th). **To learn more and become involved, please see below.**

May 15, 6-8pm, Annual Meeting, Hudson Library. We need a quorum for this meeting. Please plan to attend.

Volunteer for Sunshine Week Committee

Are you a current member, looking for a way to become more involved in our local league without a long-term commitment? If so, plan to join the Sunshine Week 2025 Ad Hoc Committee!



As a league, we celebrate Sunshine Week in March every year, and this year, we would like to raise more awareness about the public's right to access government information and hold officials accountable. At our first meeting last week, we discussed aiming for a collaborative effort with journalists, educators, and government all to shine a light on the importance of public records and open government. There are many examples of how access to public records improves all of our lives; think public water testing or police reports. And, our LWVH Observer Corps monitors government adherence to the requirements of open meetings laws by observing public meetings.

If you have some ideas about how to promote Sunshine Week, or want to know more about sunshine laws and Observer Corps, email Maura McCaughey at lwwhobservercorps@gmail.com. Watch this space for more information and future meeting dates!



Advocacy Corner

Lame Duck is Here

Lame Duck, the period between Election Day and the start of a new legislative session in January of the next year, continues next week. The schedule is [here](#), but items are often added at the last minute, so we recommend checking both the GA schedule and our site frequently. There are a number of bills we are watching closely and taking action when necessary. They include:

- **SB 324:** Would add provisions to change election law, including but not limited to removing drop boxes, new requirements in initiative petitions, and more involved processes for citizenship verification in voter registration.
- **SJR 5:** Would modify the process for statutes proposed by initiative petition, primarily eliminating the four-month legislative window to

instead give a two-year safe harbor to newly passed initiated statutes.

- **SB 173:** Would protect election workers by expunging their home addresses and cell phone numbers from public record.

Here's how to stay informed and get involved:

- Follow all the bills we're tracking in lame duck: Go to our [Legislative Tracker](#), which has been updated with the bills we're following and will be refreshed throughout the period.
- Actions you can take now: Go to our [Action Alerts](#) page to contact your legislators on a few key bills.
- Keep an eye out for "Action Alert" emails from us: When there is an opportunity for us to do rapid response, we will send members an email that will allow you to message lawmakers directly.
- Join Lobby Corps: Lobby Corps provides regular advocacy updates on the legislation we are following via email and monthly calls. All members are welcome, and we ask that all Leagues have representation on the calls. To join our listserv, go [here](#).

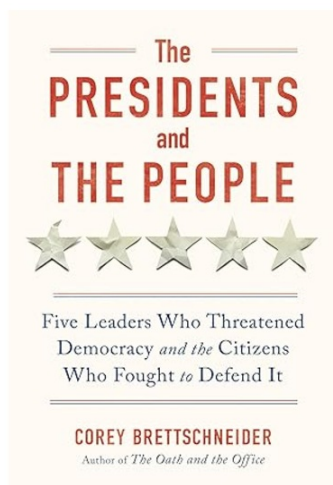
Ohio Voters and VOTE411



Voter turnout in Ohio was down for the Nov 5, 2024 election. According to Cincinnati.com and Ohio Secretary of State 5.85 million Ohioans or 71.71% of registered voters cast ballots in 2024 compared to 5.97 million Ohioans and 73.99% of registered voters in 2020.

Vote411.org had 9.1 million users across the country. Ohio had 280,509 users and Hudson had about 1400 users.

LWVH Book Club



*The Presidents and the People:
Five Leaders Who Threatened
Democracy and the Citizens Who
Fought to Defend It*

by Corey Brettschneider

Imagine an American president who imprisoned critics, spread a culture of white supremacy, and tried to upend the law so that he could commit crimes with impunity. Constitutional law and political science professor Corey Brettschneider provides a thoroughly

researched account of assaults on democracy by not one such president but by five—John Adams, James Buchanan, Andrew Johnson, Woodrow Wilson, and Richard Nixon. This is a book about citizens—Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Daniel Ellsberg, and more—who fought back against presidential abuse of power. Their examples give us hope about the possibilities of restoring a fragile democracy.

January 16, 7pm
Kathy Battaglia's Home

Bring a friend! Non-members are welcome. Please [RSVP](#).

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

LWV of Hudson

PO Box 331

Hudson OH 44236

lwwhudsonohio@gmail.com

www.lwwhudson.org

Visit LWV Hudson website



LWV of Ohio

www.lwvohio.org

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League of Women Voters of Hudson | PO Box 331 | Hudson, OH 44236 US

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