



# THE VOTER

The monthly publication of the Toledo-Lucas County League of Women Voters

April 2009

## Signature Event Theme: MAKING DEMOCRACY WORK

The League's fourth annual Signature Event will again be held at the Reynolds Garden Cafe on Reynolds Rd. and Airport Highway on April 23. This year's honorees are the Catharine B. Eberly Center at the University of Toledo for their student oriented get out the vote programs, the A. Phillip Randolph Center Toledo Chapter for their voter education and get out the vote programs and Kathy Riley from Toledo Public Schools and Diane Hamilton from Washington Local Schools for their roles in making it possible for high school seniors to work the polls on election day.

This year's featured speaker is Dr. Gerald Bazer, retired dean of Arts and Sciences at Owens Community College and frequent contributor to the Blade.

The reservation form is again included in this Voter and has been sent electronically to all league members with e-mail. Please join us for this annual celebration of League principles in action.

## ANNUAL MEETING DATE CHANGE

Our Annual Meeting and traditional potluck dinner will be held June 4, 2009, at 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, downtown Toledo at Adams and St. Clair St. There is inside garage parking (enter off St. Clair behind the Valentine Theatre). Come and bring a simple dish to share.

Included in this Voter are the action items for the business meeting: the proposed budget for 2009-2010, the nominating committee report, and the local program. Remember this is the time of year when we prepare for the upcoming League season, electing our leaders, balancing our budget and passing our action agenda.

## *President's Letter*

LWVTLC hosted a Meet and Greet event, **Kim Penn** and her committee really did their homework to make this event the success it was. Everyone in attendance commented about the Mansion View as being a great venue and the artful way the exhibits, and rooms were displayed. Thanks Kim you made the league shine at one of the things we do best, be informative.

Hurry, get your seats and bring your friends for our Fourth annual Signature Event, time is getting limited and we know you want to be there for this informative and exciting event; not to mention the fabulous door prizes and the good food. Tickets are still available, more information is inside this Voter.

The League of Women Voters of Perrysburg is hosting a Town Hall meeting on Election Law Reform on April 28, 2009, at the Perrysburg School Administration Building, 140 E. Indiana Avenue at 7:00 P.M. **Peg Rosenfield** and **Anne Henkener**, who have served as professionals in Ohio State Government and are long time lobbyists for the LWVO, will bring more understanding to the issues. Wood County Board of Elections representatives will respond. They expect to see most of their local public officials in attendance. They have invited our league and if it is possible they would like an update on our law suit. If anyone would like to attend this event perhaps we could set up a car pool.

Hope to see everyone at the Signature Event and volunteering in the many capacities **you** all do.

Rosemary and Peg

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Congratulations Gabrielle!

One of our members, **Gabrielle Davis**, is one the 13 local winners of the Jefferson Award, the nation's highest award for community service. From small gestures to large endeavors, they all strived to make our community a better place to live and work. She, and the other local winners were honored at a dinner held on March 11, 2009, in the Park Inn. Last year Ms. Davis was the recipient of the Public Interest Law Award from the Advocates of Basic Legal Equality and Legal Aid of Northwestern Ohio and the Toledo Bar Association.

## Honoring Women Elected Officials Theme of Reception

Toledo Lucas County League of Women Voters recognized elected female officials in Lucas County at the successful Meet and Greet Public Officials Reception on March 23. The earliest woman official listed is Etta Green Randall (1846-1929) who was one of two women on the Sylvania School Board in 1895.

Ohio and Toledo played a large role in the women's suffrage revolution. Akron was the site of the 1851 Women Rights Convention, remembered for Sojourner Truth's "Ain't I a woman" speech and the fateful meeting of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony who set the agenda for much of the women's rights movement. Pauline Steinem of Toledo, paternal grandmother of Gloria Steinem, was a suffragette and one of the first elected females in Toledo; elected to the Toledo School Board. She became the President of Ohio's Women Suffrage Association from 1908 to 1911. As chair person of the 1909 National American Women's Suffrage Association (NAWSA), Steinem advocated textbooks used in school point out the role of the woman with "a fair representation of Women's work and Influence" and that were "unbiased, complete, and up-to-date." Steinem also recommended schools allow boys and girls to run for office and both sexes vote to prepare them for such roles as adults. She believed it was the role of mothers to instill women's rights in girls so that they could become active participants in the political process.

Conflict within the suffrage movement over strategy lead to a split in leadership. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony led the National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) whereas, Lucy Stone broke away from NWSA to form the American Woman Suffrage Association (AWSA), with Henry Blackwell and Ward Howe during the 1860s. NWSA favored women's enfranchisement through a federal constitutional amendment, while AWSA believed success could be more easily achieved through state-by-state campaigns. Do these strategies sound familiar? The Wyoming Territory and Utah were the first individual areas to give women full suffrage prior to the 19th amendment with others following piecemeal. The National American Women's Suffrage Association was formed in 1890. NAWSA combined both of the above techniques, in securing the passage of the 19th amendment and the women's right to vote in 1920, under the dynamic direction of Carrie Chapman Catt, founder of the League of Women Voters.

Jonnie Taylor

### CALENDAR 2008-2009

April 22.....Earth Day

April 23.....5:30pm .....**Signature Event**, Reynolds Garden Cafe, 1220 Reynolds Rd. Social hour followed by dinner at 6:15 PM

May 1-3.....LWVO convention, Crown Plaza, Dublin, OH

June 4.....6:00pm .....**Annual Meeting**, Trinity Episcopal Church, Adams and St. Clair St. downtown Toledo

June 30....4:00-9:00pm...Joint Board Meeting, location TBA

All league meetings are open to all members. Please come and bring a guest.

# Report of the Nominating Committee

*The following nominees will be presented for election at the Annual Meeting on June 4. Nominees from the floor will be accepted at that time. All terms of office are for two years from 2009 through 2011.*

For Co-President:  
E. Jay Murphy

1st Vice President:  
vacant

Secretary:  
Mary Karazim

Directors:  
Sharon Friedman  
Jane Meyer  
Uta Schaub  
Peg Hull Smith

Nominating Committee for 2010 (1-year term)  
Kathleen Chamberlain  
Ann Fabiszak Payne, chair  
Karen Krause

Continuing until 2010 and not to be elected at the Annual Meeting:

Co-President: Rosemary Alloy  
2nd Vice President: Yvette Thompson Gordon  
Treasurer: Sue Nichols  
Board of Directors: Bonnie Bishop  
Meg Murphy  
Kim Penn  
Jonnie Taylor (appointed)  
Darcy Yates

Respectfully submitted,  
Alice Edwards, chair  
Phyllis Barnes  
Bonnie Bishop (appointed)  
Kathleen Chamberlain  
Kim Penn (appointed)

<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>		<b>PROPOSED</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
Dues	2,722.50	2,887.50	52.5@55
Member Contributions	200.00	600.00	
Non-member Contributions	100.00	300.00	
Signature Event	1,000.00	700.00	
<b>Total Operating Income</b>	<b>4,173.50</b>	<b>4,587.50</b>	

<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Gen. Supplies/Copies	80.00	80.00	60%
Postage-Board/Officers	50.00	50.00	60%
PO Box Rental	60.00	55.00	60%
Telephone	172.80	172.80	60%
E-mail/Internet	60.00	60.00	
Fund Raising	100.00	100.00	
Signature Event	815.00	800.00	
Membership	100.00	289.00	
Public Relations	150.00	150.00	
National Convention	0.00	400.00	
State Convention/Confer.	400.00	0.00	
Meetings/Receptions	150.00	400.00	
LWVO PMP	872.00	837.20	75%
LWVUS PMP	663.30	693.50	50%
Voter	400.00	400.00	
Publications	50.00	50.00	
Program	50.00	50.00	
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>4,173.10</b>	<b>4,587.50</b>	

<b>EDUCATION FUND INCOME</b>		
Member Contributions	200.00	500.00
Non-member Contributions	600.00	1,000.00
Community Shares	2,200.00	2,000.00
Fund Raising	400.00	400.00
<b>Total Ed. Fund Income</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>	<b>3,900.00</b>

<b>EDUCATION FUND EXPENSES</b>			
Try/New Citizens' Guide	1,545.88	1,600.00	
Voter Services	200.00	300.00	
Naturalization	0.00	280.00	
Community Shares	250.00	250.00	
Fund Raising Expenses	50.00	50.00	
State PMP	290.82	279.00	25%
National PMP	663.30	693.50	50%
40%of basic operating expenses	400.00	447.50	
<b>Total Ed Fund Expenses</b>	<b>3,400.00</b>	<b>3,900.00</b>	

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## **Proposed Program for Advocacy, 2009-2010**

### **Election Reform**

Support election reform that guarantees no citizen is disenfranchised.

Support reforms to ensure that the Board of Elections exhibits responsible management of elections, including adequate and continuous training of poll workers, fair and equitable distribution of the population among polling places and precincts and voting machines within precincts, as well as thorough and accurate counting of votes.

### **Community Studies**

Study the structure and functions of governmental units in Lucas County.

### **Local Government Funding**

Support adequate, fair and equitable funding for local government programs and services.

### **The Environment**

Support organizational, financial and technical methods of preventing environmental pollution.

Support cooperation and coordination among governmental agencies and the private sectors involved with water management, air quality, toxic waste issues and land use that include the principals of smart growth and citizen participation in land development decisions plus other services not pertaining directly to the environment, such as economic development. Encourage personal responsibility toward environmental conservation.

### **Education**

Support the best utilization of human and physical resources to provide a high quality system of publicly supported educational systems in the county.

Support efforts to ensure that all schools are accessible, responsive and accountable for student performance: that they exhibit responsible management: that they are accountable to citizens through locally elected officers and they comply with the same laws, rules, standards and policies.

### **Healthcare**

Encourage the city of Toledo and Lucas County to continue financial support to a program such as CareNet that provides healthcare services to low-income residents of Lucas County who do not have health insurance and do not qualify for governmental healthcare programs.

Support local cooperation and coordination among governmental agencies and medical providers to expand the program for the uninsured and underinsured.

### **Juvenile Justice**

Support the principle that children under age of 18 are not adults and that their treatment within the juvenile justice system should relate to their stage of development. No child should be held in adult prisons or detention facilities.

Support the use, development and coordination of local diagnostic and treatment resources for children at-risk as well as juvenile offenders. Support programs assisting youth who are transitioning from foster home placements to the adult world.

Support gender-specific treatment programs that meet the specific needs of each child, particularly programs with effective services, education and treatment.

Support the development of a comprehensive county system of children's services for the prevention and treatment of children at-risk, as well as juvenile offenders. Such a comprehensive system would require the intentional collaboration of families, schools, community agencies and the Court to use the resources of the extended community to give each child a continuum of care.

# No Consensus Reached on National Popular Vote Consortium

Twenty-one league members attended the February meeting at the Spaghetti Warehouse to participate in an LWV time honored tradition: trying to reach consensus. The question was should League support the effort to establish a National Popular Vote Consortium as a means to ensure the election, to the office of President, of the individual who receives the most popular votes? The committee that studied this issue provided several statements to mull over to stimulate discussion and reach a conclusion. Discussion was broad ranging. Knowledge about the Electoral College (history, pros and cons, reasons for continued existence) was varied and a sense of reverence for the constitution was strong. There were voices who reminded the group that current needs demanded action despite potential pitfalls and problems in order to prompt a constitutional amendment leading to election by popular vote of the President and Vice-president. All agreed that either course: abolition of the Electoral College, which the league supports, or the NPV compact is a difficult and likely lengthy process. Some worried NPV would increase regionalism. Some feared it--a threat to the voice of the populace, others saw it as a potential benefit. All in all it was a very good discussion but without consensus except in one area that it is better for the League to continue to work for a constitutional amendment to establish direct election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College.

## 2008-2009 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## *The Voter*

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Ann Fabiszak Payne, Editor

The League of Women Voters of  
Toledo-Lucas County  
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Northwest Ohio Community Shares



Building social and economic equity and a healthy environment.

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