



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS®

# THE VOTER

The Monthly Publication of the League of Women Voters of Toledo Lucas County

founded 1921

[www.lwvtoledo.org](http://www.lwvtoledo.org)

March 2011

## 2011 Calendar

### March

30 *Statehouse Day reservation  
deadline*

### April

7 *LWVO State House Day*  
9 *SHero Luncheon, see article  
pg 3*  
12 *Lobby lunch, Columbus*  
20 *Lake Erie Basin Committee  
UM Dearborn see article  
pg 3*  
22 *Earth Day*  
26 *Lobby lunch, Columbus*  
28 *LWVTLC Annual Meeting  
see article at right.*

### May

1 *Law Day*  
13-15 *LWVO Convention  
at Maumee Bay State Park*  
31 *Memorial Day*

### June LWVTLC 90th Anniversary

16 *Strategic Planning/Joint  
Board meeting*  
18-20 *LWVUS Council  
Washington DC*

### July

4 *Independence Day*

### August

28 *Hot August Night Community  
Shares Fundraiser at 5/3 Field*

## LWVTLC Annual Meeting Planned as Luncheon

The Ramada Inn on Secor Rd will once again be the setting of this year's Annual Meeting on April 28 from 11:30 a.m. to approximately 1:30 p.m. Members will elect officers and new board members, and determine the program and budget for the coming league year. This is also the time that the current officers and board review the year's accomplishments.

Included in this voter as preparation for the meeting and specified by our bylaws are the proposed slate of candidates, the local program and the 2011-12 budget. Lunch will be served at 11:30 and costs \$15 which includes tax and tip. Make your reservations by calling Bonnie at 419-474-5030 by April 21.

## 90 Years and Counting

In her speech to the members at the 24th Anniversary celebration of the Toledo League of Women Voters, Olive Colton recalled the beginnings of the League as the women struggled to learn about politics and government. In her wise and humorous way she recounted the league accomplishments and regaled her audience. Telling of how they "learned the ropes that had fenced in the female of the species" by "bearing in their dens" the party bosses to discuss the women vote, by interviewing all three of the local papers' editors about "existing conditions" and visiting council, courts and institutions gleaning information wherever they went. Over the years they formed coalitions notably the Women's Joint Legislative Committee which was responsible for the formation of the Court of Domestic Relations and a local ordinance to prevent children under 12 from selling on the street. But they were also involved in national and global affairs; lobbying for the Sheppard-Towner Act and sending delegates to the Conference on the Cause and Cure of War. She defined league as it still is defined as "conspicuous for something unusual in politics, a group with no axes to grind, their lobbies served the general welfare." The complete text of Olive Colton's speech is on our website [www.lwvtoledo.org](http://www.lwvtoledo.org).

## President's Letter

Hello Leaguers,

Spring flowers are about to bloom and Easter is on it's way. The League of Women Voters is also in blossom as we prepare for our annual LWVTLC meeting on April 28. Thanks to Peg H. Smith for taking the leadership in formulating this member event. Come out and become a part of the planning sessions. See this Voter for details.

Don't forget to circle the dates of April 28 and May 13-15.

Committee members and board members have stepped up to the challenge of hosting the LWVO Convention at Maumee Bay State Park, May 13-15. This is a North West Ohio event. LWVTLC, Bowling Green, Perrysburg and Tiffin Leagues are working as cosponsors.

Thanks to all leaguers who volunteered to work during the conference days. We are in need of volunteers to help stuff the goodies bag on Thursday. If you would like to volunteer, we have a volunteer form for you. Please contact Ann Payne.

Jean Koznarek, VP of LWVO presented a workshop on advocacy in Perrysburg on February 26. Jean emphasized the importance of leaguers active participation in advocacy which may mean studying an issue then taking a position on that issue. We are often called upon to lobby for or against a law or a proposed bill. Jean encouraged leagues to seek new members and to mentor young members. She also encouraged the leagues to start small groups to study issues of interest to them, there could be brown bag lunch meetings as an alternative to regular meetings. You can help to create the change and take a stand on issues. Two hot issues that are being lobbied are SB5 ( Ohio Senate Bill on collective bargaining) and the other is the National Health Care Reform Mandate.

On March 22, Rep Marcy Kaptur spoke to the issues of health care reform. Kaptur encouraged citizens to support health care reform which has insurance options. The health reform will ease prescription costs for many especially those on medicare, underinsured or uninsured individuals. There are 50 million uninsured Americans. Have you been thinking that your medical bills are higher? Indeed they are higher as medical costs have increased 163% from 1999 to 2009. Those attending the Kaptur presentation were asked to sign a card opposing cuts to social security and medicare benefits that will be sent to John A. Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives. A copy of the card is available from LWVTLC.

In Pursuit of Democracy,  
Jonnie Taylor

"Don't be afraid to go where you've never gone and do what you've never done, because both are necessary to have what you've never had and to be who you've never been." Mike Dooley, tut.com

### 2010-11 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** **Jonnie Taylor** 2017 Circle Drive, Toledo, OH 43607 567-277-4794 [tamerri@aol.com](mailto:tamerri@aol.com)

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**Membership Chair:** **Darcy Yates** 7632 Shadywood Lane Sylvania, OH 43560 419-885-1257. [darcyjyates@bex.net](mailto:darcyjyates@bex.net)



# Lake Erie Basin Committee

The spring meeting of the LEBC will be April 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Environmental Interpretive Center of the University of Michigan Dearborn

Campus. LWVTLC along with the other Northwest Ohio Lake Erie Basin Leagues is a member of the Committee. We are represented by Peg Hull Smith who serves as co-corresponding secretary and Sandy Bihn, the Western Lake Erie Waterkeeper. Any leaguer

or guest interested in the quality of Lake Erie is urged to attend the meetings. These are working meetings that are meant to inform and unite basin leagues' environmental efforts. The topics to be covered are: great lakes protection and restoration focusing on the Great Lakes

Restoration Initiative, the Great Lakes Compact, the Legacy Act, and the Water Quality Agreement; CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations); aquatic invasive species; and nuclear issues, specifically power plants and radioactive waste.

There will be a tour of the UM facility just before the "bring your own brown bag" lunch. There is no charge associated with this meeting. If you would like more information or directions to the site contact Peg. See pg. 2 for her contact information.

<p>LWVO 59TH CONVENTION MAY 13-15</p>	<p>Sustaining Democracy Through Sustainable Communities</p>	<p>AT MAUMEE BAY STATE PARK</p>	<p>Check <a href="http://www.lwvohio.org">www.lwvohio.org</a> for first call to convention info.</p>	<p>Best Rate Hotel Reservation Deadline 4/11 Convention Registration Deadline 4/22</p>
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## LWVO Convention Update

The quad leagues' convention committee has been meeting regularly and working hard to make this a memorable event. LWVTLC delegates have been selected and a number of leaguers have volunteered to help

during the convention days. What is still needed are **items** for the **silent auction** scheduled for Friday night and **token items** for the **goody bags** that all attendees will receive. If you have any ideas or sources for these things please contact Tammy Degner, Jonnie Taylor or Bonnie Bishop. See

pg. 2 for contact information.

## S Hero Luncheon

The Women's Commission of UAW Local 1435 annual luncheon honoring women in the workplace who have proven to be heros will be April 9 at the their union hall

29781 Oregon Rd., Perrysburg, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This year's theme is **Exploitation of Women in Ohio** with UT Prof. Celia Williamson as key panelist. Admission is free, contact Yvette Thompson Gordon to RSVP by April 5. See pg. 2 for contact info.

## Nominating Committee Report

The candidates for co-president are willing to serve for one year under the condition that they be allowed to explore solutions to the problem of a diminishing active membership resulting in limited participation in league activities and interest in taking leadership roles. These efforts might include exploring the establishment of a regional league, for example, a Northwest Ohio League or some other combination that could increase active membership while preserving our 90 year old league and its accomplishments and purpose.

Co-Presidents: Bonnie Bishop and Peg Hull Smith 2011-2012

Vice-President: Yvette Thompson Gordon 2011-2012, completing the vacant unexpired term of first Vice President.

Treasurer: Kathy Chamberlain 2011-2012 completing the vacant unexpired term of Treasurer.

Secretary: Mary Karazim 2011-2013

Board of Directors:

Tammy Degner 2011-2013

Sue Nichols 2011-2012 filling vacant unexpired term.

Uta Schaub 2011-2013

Ashley Stevens 2011-2012 filling vacant unexpired term.

Jonnie Taylor 2011-2013

Andre Washington 2011-2013

2012 Nominating Committee:

Diane Hamilton, Karen Krause and Ann Fabiszak Payne, chair. In accordance with the bylaws, two additional committee members are to be appointed from the board of directors at the beginning of the league year to complete the committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

2011 Nominating Committee: Bonnie Bishop, Kathy Chamberlain, Yvette Thompson Gordon, Karen Krause, Ann Fabiszak Payne, chair.

## *Feb. 26 Regional Meeting Highlights*

Tammy Degner reported to the Board on the Regional Meeting held in Perrysburg on Saturday Feb. 26. Members from the northwest Ohio leagues of Perrysburg, Bowling Green and Toledo were present to hear Jean Koznarik, LWVO Vice President, speak about advocacy. Koznarik's interest in league advocacy was kindled when she was elected Vice President of her local league, Shaker Heights, and given that specific task. The knowledge she has acquired over the years and some pointers supplied by LWVUS have been condensed into the following 12 ways to jump start local league advocacy efforts. Start small and build is her first piece of advice.

1. Respond to every national and state action alert with a letter or phone call on behalf of your entire league.
2. Interview your member of congress and state legislators. Build a relationship. Interview local policy makers to establish a relationship.
3. Provide a league explanation and pro/con arguments for at least one local ballot issue.
4. Take a position on at least one local ballot issue. Use state or national positions to justify support or opposition if you don't have a local position that can be used.
5. Start an Observer Corps.
6. Propose an issue for study at your next annual meeting
7. Recruit a strong committee, educate the committee using available resources, create specialties.
8. Make sure you can take action if necessary between board meetings.
9. Join a local advocacy coalition.
10. Collect any existing studies and positions in one place. Educate your members about existing local positions and how state/national positions can be applied locally. Participate in state and national consensus opportunities.
11. Participate in LWVO and LWVUS program planning.
12. Being reactive - rather than proactive - is okay. Look for opportunities to respond to current events by submitting letters to the editor/op-ed pieces to the paper, issuing news releases, testifying before a public body.

DATES TO  
REMEMBER

APRIL 7  
STATEHOUSE  
DAY  
RESERVATION  
DEADLINE 3.30

APRIL 12 & 26  
LOBBY LUNCHESES  
Columbus Library  
96 S. Grant Ave.

APRIL 28  
LWVTLC ANNUAL  
MEETING

## The following is from the March 25, 2011 League Leaders Update

### LWVO Strongly Opposes Restrictive Ohio Voter ID Bill

Despite there being *no* evidence of fraud under Ohio's current voter ID requirements, House Bill 159 (HB 159) seeks to require that voters use only government-issued photo IDs for identification at the polls – eliminating currently acceptable forms of ID such as utility bills, bank statements and other documents that can effectively verify identity. LWVO believes this can disenfranchise legitimate voters in Ohio (research indicates hundreds of thousands of Ohio voters may currently lack such ID) – and discourage them from exercising this vital right. Moreover, its implementation will cost a lot of money that Ohio does not have (See “The Cost of Voter ID Laws: What the Courts Say” by the Brennan Center for Justice – [http://www.lwvohio.org/base.cfm?page\\_id=2004](http://www.lwvohio.org/base.cfm?page_id=2004).)

Voting rights has been a core principle of the League's for the 91 years of our existence—and LWVO elections specialist Peg Rosenfield testified March 22 opposing HB 159. She also represented the League at a press conference on March 23. Please read her testimony at <http://tinyurl.com/lwvo-testimonyhb159>.

HB 159 is a solution to a problem that does not exist. Introduced March 15, this rushed bill passed the Ohio House on March 23, blocking education of and input from legislators' constituents. This morning, the Columbus Dispatch urged legislators to “slow down” in an editorial: <http://tinyurl.com/4vrybzx>.

**Please look for and respond to an LWVO Action Alert on HB 159 when the Ohio Senate begins consideration of the bill in the near future.**

**PROPOSED 2011-2012 BUDGET**  
League of Women Voters Toledo-Lucas County

	Current	Proposed
<b>Operating Income</b>		
Dues	3300	2900
Member Contributions	500	300
Non-member contributions	200	100
Signature/Special event	1000	1000
Interest	100	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5100</b>	<b>4400</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
National dues	600	650
State dues	800	750
Gen. supplies	80	100
Postage	100	80
P.O. Box rental	95	100
Telephone	200	250
Internet	200	100
Fundraising	200	100
Sig./Special event	900	470
Membership	220	200
Public relations	400	100
National convention	-0-	500
State convention	400	-0-
Meetings/receptions	200	200
Voter	600	700
Publications	50	50
Program	55	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5100</b>	<b>4400</b>
<b>Education Fund Income</b>		
Member contributions	200	200
Non-member contributions	1800	2500
Community Shares	1800	1500
Fund raising	200	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>4300</b>
<b>Ed Fund Expenses</b>		
TRY (They Represent You)	2000	2400
Voter services	200	200
Naturalization	250	250
Community Shares	250	250
Fund raising expenses	50	50
State PMP (per member payment)	200	240
National PMP	650	600
40 % of operating costs	400	310
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4000</b>	<b>4300</b>

<b>LEARN MORE AT STATEHOUSE DAY APRIL 7</b>	9:45 A.M. Keynote: Fred Andrle on “Civil Discourse”	Lunch with Secretary of State Jon Husted	Workshops: Kasich Plan for Education, Ohio Budget & Affordable Care Act, Budget & Criminal Justice System, Redistricting	3:00 P. M. Reception Honoring Peg Rosenfield and Joan Lawrence
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To register go to [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org) or call (877) LWV-OHIO or use the registration form found in your LWVO Voter.

**Proposed LWVTLC Program for Advocacy, 2011-2012**  
**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 **all** votes. **(add all)**

Support election reform that promotes sufficient pre-election planning to mitigate long election lines and provides post-election evaluation of each election.

Support legislation that will permit the appointment of qualified electors who are not members of either of the two major political parties as precinct judges and election officers.

Support legislation giving counties the option of using split shifts for poll workers.

Support reforms that promote best practices in voter education.

**Community Studies (This segment is to be removed)**

**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 public 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 the public 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** programs for the uninsured and underinsured. **(deleted the and add s)**

**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, libraries and other community agencies and the courts to use the resources of the extended community to give each child a continuum of care.

***EXPLANATION OF ABOVE CHANGES***

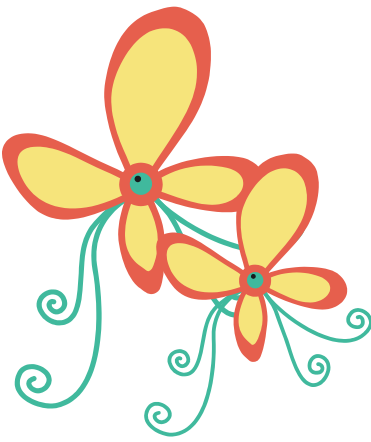
The changes were made at the February general meeting by the consensus of those members present.

The recent local questions that have arisen over the counting of provisional ballots were a concern and resulted in the addition of the word all before votes in the Election Reform position.

It was determined that the brief and often amended statement about Community Studies lacked any definitive objective and was not a true program/position statement.

The changes in the Healthcare position were meant to make this statement more general and applicable to programs in addition to CareNet.

Member Sandy Bihn is researching an addition to the Environment position that would more directly address the problem of excessive nutrient runoff resulting in the overgrowth of algae in the Lake. This may be presented at the Annual Meeting for member consideration.



## LWV/TLC ANNUAL MEETING

2010-2011

COME ONE! COME ALL!

- AWESOME LUNCH
- AWESOME AWARDS
- AWESOME FRIENDS
- AWESOME MEETING

AT THE RAMADA  
3536 SECOR ROAD  
TOLEDO, OHIO

APRIL 28, 2011  
LUNCH AT 11:30  
MEETING STARTS AT 12:15

COST: \$15.00 (INCLUDING TAX \$ TIP)  
RESERVATIONS: CALL BONNIE AT 419.474.5030 by April 21  
(SPECIFY VEGETARIAN)



## The Voter

The Voter is published nine times a year by the League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County PO Box 2506, Toledo, OH 43606 419-474-5030. [www.lwvtoledo.org](http://www.lwvtoledo.org)

March 2011

Jonnie Taylor, President  
Ann Fabiszak Payne, Editor

Contact editor at [hosea.payne@utoledo.edu](mailto:hosea.payne@utoledo.edu) to submit information or articles for the Voter. Deadline is 7th of every month



## Join the League!

The League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County is part of a nationwide group of women and men who care about democracy. Join us and become part of a group that since 1920 has worked to keep the power of democracy in the hands of the people.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Levels

- \_\_\_ \$55 Olive Colton (Local, state and national memberships and all publications)
- \_\_\_ \$75 Carrie Chapman Catt (Memberships plus a \$20 contribution to general fund)
- \_\_\_ \$100 Susan B. Anthony (Memberships plus a \$45 contribution to general fund)
- \_\_\_ \$27.50 Additional household member (Local, state and national memberships)
- \_\_\_ \$30 Full-time Student (Local, state and national memberships and all publications)

Membership checks should be made payable to LWV-TLC. Any contribution above the basic \$55 membership fee will be gratefully accepted as a non tax-deductible donation to the LWV/TLC general fund for operating expenses.

*Tax-deductible donations can be made with a separate check made out to LWVOH Education Fund Toledo Account.*

League of Women Voters of  
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P.O. Box 2506  
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