



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

2011-12
Calendar

November

17 General Meeting 7 p.m.
topic: LWVUS Education
Consensus. at The Hall
South Village Sq. 1419
Bernath Pkwy.

December

13 Perrysburg LWV Xmas
Luncheon. Noon. Speaker:
Judge Judith Lanzinger.
RSVP details pgs. 2 & 7.

January

19 General Meeting
topic: Program Planning,
National Issues
23 6:15 p.m. Board Meeting
Hungry I (meeting 7-8 p.m.)

February

16 General Meeting
topic: Program on Issues of
Child Obesity. Report on
weekly children's program.
27 6:15 p.m. Board Meeting
Hungry I (meeting 7-8 p.m.)

March

15 Reception for Public
Officials
26 6:15 p.m. Board Meeting
Hungry I (meeting 7-8 p.m.)

April

19 Signature Event

May

17 Annual Meeting

June

8-14 LWVUS
Convention Washington DC

THE VOTER

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

founded 1921

www.lwvtoledo.org

November 2011

Nov. 17 General Meeting LWVUS Education Consensus

Venue Change to The Hall in South Toledo at Bernath Pkwy. and Airport Hwy. in South Village Square, Across the Street from TGIFriday's Restaurant.

What is the role of the federal government in public education? is the question to be tackled at the November 17th general meeting. This consensus question was proposed and passed at the 2010 LWVUS convention. As is typical for League studies, a national committee has formulated a series of questions to be discussed and provided a number of references and **study materials** to help us prepare for the discussion of this complex and important topic.

Carol Ragan and Diane Hamilton have **prepared packets** of this information dividing it into three segments: the historical roll of the federal government in education and the current standards and curriculum issues; the funding issues--who gets what and who pays and the equity of distribution; and a glossary of terms. They are making them available to any league member who wants them. To obtain a packet call or email Diane at 419 824 5462 or djhamilton@buckeye-express.com. **Packets will also be available from 6 p.m.** at the meeting location if you wish to come early.

The **information** that Carol and Diane have condensed and summarized can be found at <http://www.lwvtoledo.org/calendar.html> or at www.lwv.org for the original documents, go to the *For Members* drop down menu and click on *Projects and Programs*. There you will see on the right hand side of the page a list of studies and task force reports. Click on *Education Study: The Role of The Federal Government in Public Education* and you will come to the links to all the materials.

There are many opinions and perspectives associated with public education. There is also much factual information and data available. The hope of the planners of this meeting is that opinions, perspectives and facts can come together for the discussion of what we as a league believe and are willing to support as the basis for our legislative activity. Come to listen, learn, participate and shape league.

President's Letter

Dear Leaguers,

I'm not sure why but it always seems to be that, come October and November, time is flying faster and faster. For a League member, October is always filled with voting activities and this year was no exception. Our two Forums this year were very well attended. Thanks to our chairs of these two events – Yvette Thompson and Kathy Chamberlain as well as Carol Ragan and Terry Mills, we managed to present election candidates as well as voting information to well over 180 people. In addition, Bonnie and I have been attending the Lucas County Board of Election board meetings throughout the fall. We are very impressed with the new BOE administrator and assistant administrator and know that their jobs are made harder by the disputatious nature of the current Board. Hopefully the Board will find a way to work out some of their differences so that elections can run smoothly during this coming week!

I want to alert you all to two upcoming events. The first involves a look at the role of the federal government in public education. The League is reviewing its stand on this issue, and so we will be (after study and review) involved in coming together for a consensus. The Education Consensus will be on November 17 at a new location for our events: a place called "The Hall" (1419 Bernath Pkwy in Toledo). The chairs of this event, Carol Ragan and Diane Hamilton have set the stage for a serious night of thinking, working, and discussion. Please come and experience "what the League is all about". If you can, come early as study materials will be there at 6PM!!!

The second event is our annual Holiday Luncheon with the Perrysburg League. Lucky for us, our League was again invited to join Perrysburg, Bowling Green and Tiffin Leagues to celebrate the holidays. Judge Judith Lanzinger will be the keynote speaker and the event will again be at the Carranor Club, 502 E 2nd, Perrysburg on December 13. (RSVP to Nancy Kelley, 1560 Saddlebrook Cr., Toledo OH 43615, \$18.50.)

Bonnie and I wish you and yours a wonderful holiday.

Peg

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY

*Send your dues check to Darcy Yates
7632 Shadywood Ln. Sylvania 43560*

2011-12 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Co-Presidents: **Bonnie Bishop** 2676 Algonquin Toledo, OH 43606 419-474-5030 bonnie@accesstoledo.com
Peg Hull Smith 4430 Nantucket, Toledo, OH 43623 419-841-6988 phullsmith@buckeye-express.com
Vice President: **Yvette Thompson** 1141 Northville, Toledo, OH 43612 419-215-9326 ythomp1141@aol.com
Secretary: **Mary Karazim** 3307 Bentley, Toledo, OH 43606 419-536-8234 marykarazim@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: **Kathy Chamberlain** 10308 Obee Rd. Whitehouse OH 43571 419-877-0028 princess@tbbs.net
Tammy Degner 7340 Nightingale Dr. Apt. 13, Holland OH 43528 419-865-3983 tammydegner@rocketmail.com
Sue Nichols 6913 Milrose Ln. Toledo, OH 43617 419-843-4121 suenichols@accesstoledo.com
Kim Penn 626 Chatam Ct. Toledo, OH 43620 419-242-3979 redturtle61@yahoo.com
Carol Ragan 2510 County Rd. F. Swanton, OH 43558 419-826-8645 crf2510@aol.com
Uta Schaub 1907 Mount Vernon 43607 419-536-9751 ulschaub@bex.net
Ashley Stevens 1141 Northville, Toledo OH 43612 419 779-6545 adstevens83@yahoo.com
Jonnie Taylor 2017 Circle Drive, Toledo, OH 43607 567-277-4794 deidrabri@aol.com
Andre' Washington 1910 Indian Wood Circle. #201, Maumee, OH 43537 419-392-8128 andre0810@hotmail.com
Membership Chair: **Darcy Yates** 7632 Shadywood Lane, Sylvania, OH 43560 419-885-1257. darcyjyates@bex.net

Voter Services Election Season Activities

The league worked this election season with the Whitehouse Chamber of Commerce to sponsor a forum for candidates for mayor and council of the Village of Whitehouse. The forum held October 25 in the Whitehouse Elementary School Gym attracted about 70 citizens to here three mayoral candidates and six council candidates answer questions from the audience. The league's work was guided by Kathy Chamberlain. Mary Karazim and Theresa Mills sorted audience questions. Tammy Degner, Carol Ragan and Darcy Yates did the timing and students from Anthony Wayne High School collected questions from the audience.

This year was the inauguration of our online Voters Guide. Letters and questionnaires requesting participation were sent to all 152 candidates running for election in Lucas County. Responses trickled in until election day but all were posted on our website, along with the state and local issues list. Theresa Mills and Ann Fabiszak Payne put their heads together to get this off the ground.

The next step will be compiling the directory of public officials, They Represent You, after the election results are in. Diane Hamilton and Ann Fabiszak Payne will put the actual booklet together but some assistance will be needed for distribution. Help where you can, all is appreciated.

League of Women Voters of Ohio: Positions on the 2011 General Election Ballot Issues

Below are the stances LWVO took on the state issues and the reasons for them. In taking a stance on proposed constitutional amendments and referendums, the League of Women Voters of Ohio (LWV Ohio) considers the public policy positions which the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) and LWV Ohio have adopted after careful study and member consensus.

Issue 1: Proposed Constitutional Amendment to change the age at which a person may not be elected or appointed to a judicial office and to eliminate courts of conciliation and the Supreme Court Commission: **NEUTRAL.**

Passage of Issue 1 would increase the age at which a judge could be elected or appointed from age 70 to age 75. Neither LWVUS nor LWV Ohio has a position that pertains to Issue 1. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is taking a neutral stance on Issue 1.

Issue 2: Referendum on legislation relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies (A referendum on Am. Sub. SB 5): **NEUTRAL.**

Issue 2 is a referendum on Am. Sub SB 5, which seeks to change laws concerning public employees, in particular teachers, firefighters and police. Major changes affect collective bargaining rights, salary schedules and compensation, layoff procedures and leave. Neither LWVUS nor LWV Ohio has a position that pertains to Issue 2. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is taking a neutral stance on Issue 2.

Issue 3: Proposed Constitutional Amendment to add a section to Ohio's Bill of Rights exempting Ohioans from a federal requirement that individuals purchase a minimum amount of health insurance coverage: **OPPOSE.**

Issue 3 seeks to add a section to Ohio's Bill of Rights exempting Ohioans from any requirement that individuals purchase a minimum amount of health insurance. The amendment is directed at a federal law passed in 2010, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), but it also seeks to make ineffective similar state and local laws passed after the PPACA was adopted. LWVUS adopted a position on health care in 1993 which supports a basic level of affordable, accessible quality care for all U.S residents. LWV Ohio believes Issue 3 seeks to undermine efforts to provide a basic level of affordable, accessible quality health care for Ohio's residents. Accordingly, LWV Ohio is opposing Issue 3.

Member Profiles

This is one of a recurring series of profiles of our members. The aim is to eventually highlight every member's story.



Andre` Washington, New LWVTLC Board Member, league member 3 years.

Andre is a staff rep. for the Ohio Association of Public School Employees and a member and board member of many community organizations. He is state president of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute, a civil rights organization, which like the league promotes voter education and registration. In this capacity he always uses our directory of public officials, They Represent You, provided free of charge to everyone. After many trips to Bonnie Bishop's home to pick up many many copies Bonnie challenged him to join "anybody who benefits from what the league does, should become a member." He agreed and started coming to league events, but it was the Annual Meeting with its

yearend reports and program information that Yvette Thompson brought him to that was his official baptism in league. He loves the members' passion for league. "I belong to a lot of organizations and I don't see the passion that I see in league. There is no self interest, they don't get paid, they just want to serve the community." The thing that strikes him about league is the diversity of the group. "Members are young, old, men, women, black, white, from all over the county, upper class, everyday Joes. They sit around together and talk, getting ideas from every political, economic, social level in Lucas County. That's what makes us a better organization coming together with different ideas from various areas of the county." The thing that league needs is more members. "Membership is our lifeline. Everyone should do what Bonnie did with me, each member should bring in another member. The league makes a positive change in everyone's lives no matter if you live in Point Place or the inner city."

Check out our web's new look

League webmaster, Theresa Mills has been hard at work revamping LWVTLC's site and adding in this election season our first online only Voters Guide, the local and state issues and LWVO's positions on the state issues. Our publications are also posted there so if you don't have a paper copy of the TRY (the directory of public officials) or want to check an old copy of the Voter, you'll find them on the web. Do you need voting info, did you forget the meeting date, do you want to know what's happening in league?

Go to www.lwvtoledo.org

Monthly Conference Call for Statehouse Updates

LWVO/EF is now hosting a monthly **conference call for all League members** to help keep you informed about what is happening at the Statehouse, supply you with tools and information to assist you in strengthening your local League, and provide an opportunity for information-sharing between local Leagues. The calls are scheduled for the first Tuesday of every month at Noon.

The December call will be on **redistricting -- Tuesday, December 6, at 12:00 p.m. - 1 p.m.**

It is challenging to keep up with all the developments on redistricting and the extraordinary work the League is doing. Please join us for what should be an exciting and informative call. The toll-free number and access code will be sent by email to all members later this month. Those members without email addresses will be sent a postcard with that information by LWVTLC.

Advocacy

League advocacy takes many forms. The following letter was sent to the County Commissioners in September voicing our concern about the storage of voting machines. Check lwvtlc.org to see the letter to the editor when HB 194 and SB 148 were proposed.

September 8, 2011

Pete Gerken
Lucas County Commissioner
One Government Center
Toledo, OH 43604

The League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County has always maintained an interest in the Lucas County Board of Elections ability to ensure all eligible voters can vote and have their votes counted. Our Lucas County League was part of the lawsuit filed against the office of the Secretary of State in 2005 for failing to conduct fair and impartial elections. The lawsuit was settled in June 2009 and the League of Women Voters has the responsibility to monitor the settlement agreement for the next three years.

We recently met with Director Ben Roberts and the Deputy Director Dan DeAngelis of the Board of Elections to introduce ourselves and discuss ways for us to work with them while monitoring the settlement agreement and helping to ensure that voting in Lucas County is conducted in a fair and equitable manner. Two League members attended a BOE meeting this morning and learned that there was considerable concern regarding the storage area that holds the voting machines. The Secretary of State representative attending this meeting expressed concern about the facility and said that the manufacturer of the machines would recommend that the machines be stored in a temperature-controlled environment. Members of the BOE stated that the county commissioners knew of the situation but felt there were insufficient funds to change the location of the machines or update the location for the desired temperature and humidity controls.

The League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County urge the Lucas County Commissioners to fund upgrades to the storage facility for the voting machines or find a suitable place to store the machines so that all county voters can feel assured that the machines are working properly and all votes cast on the machines are counted correctly.

Please attend to this urgent matter without delay.

Respectfully,

Bonnie Bishop and Peg Hull Smith, Co-Presidents
League of Women Voters/Toledo Lucas County

An Invitation to Share Your Voting Experience

As part of the state League's efforts to ensure compliance with the 2009 settlement agreement of our federal lawsuit regarding election administration, LWVO v. Brunner, LWVO invites all League members to help by assessing their voting experience during this fall's election. This invitation was sent on November 2 to all members with email addresses and is available online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/7JMWYS5>. with a deadline of November 11 for completion.

For the convenience of all members we've included it in this voter on the next page. It is understood that this sampling will be unofficial but will provide some perspective on voters' experiences this election. If you have questions, please contact Munia Mostafa, LWVO Program Coordinator, at 614 469 1505 or projectcoordinator@lwvohio.org.

LWVO/EF Questionnaire for Voters November 2011 General Election

- | | Yes | No |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Did you request an absentee ballot? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 2. If yes, did you receive your ballot in a timely fashion? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| 3. Was your board of elections open additional days or hours in the weeks before the election? | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| | Don't know | <input type="radio"/> |
- If yes, what days and hours? _____

For people who voted at their polling place on election day:

4. How long did you have to wait to vote? _____
- If the wait was more than 15 minutes,
- a. What time of day did you vote? _____
- a. Were any machines down? Yes No
- b. Describe any other circumstances which may have contributed to the delay:
5. At your polling place:
- a. There is only one precinct in my polling place Yes No
- b. I was directed to the correct precinct by the poll worker Yes No
- c. The precincts were clearly labeled Yes No
6. Were you asked for identification? Yes No
7. What ID did you use? _____
8. Were there any high school or college students working at your polling place? Yes No
10. Were the polling place and voting machines accessible to handicapped voters? Yes No

If there was a problem, please describe it

Other comments about voting experience

League of Women Voters of _____
Name _____
*Address _____

* *Required*

If we have questions, how may we contact you?

Please return by November 12th to:
LWVO voting questions
17 South High Street, Suite 650
Columbus Ohio 43215-3413
1-877-LWV-OHIO (toll free)

Thank you for helping us!



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PERRYSBURG AREA
HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**

FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011 AT THE CARRANOR CLUB

502 E. SECOND STREET, PERRYSBURG, OHIO 43551

Socializing- 11:45-12:15 p.m.

Lunch- 12:15-1:15 p.m.

Program- 1:00-2:00 p.m.,

State of Ohio Supreme Court Justice, Judith Lanzinger

“From Municipal to Supreme-My Life on Ohio’s Courts”

Cost- \$18.50 per person

RSVP by December 8th

Checks payable to LWV of Perrysburg and mail to:

Nancy Kelley 1560 Saddlebrook, Crt. , Toledo, Ohio 43615

Detach and return

LWV Holiday Luncheon- Tuesday, December 13, 2011

GUESTS WELCOMED AND ENCOURAGED!

Attendees Names _____,

Check, payable to LWV of Perrysburg for _____, at \$18.50 per person, is enclosed



The Voter

The Voter is published several 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

November 2011

Bonnie Bishop and Peg Hull Smith,
Co-Presidents
Ann Fabiszak Payne, Editor

Contact editor at hosea.payne@utoledo.edu to submit information or articles for the Voter.



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
Toledo-Lucas County
P.O. Box 2506
Toledo, OH 43606