



# THE VOTER

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

founded 1921

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

Fall 2014

## ***National Voter Registration Day Sept. 23***

### ***2014 Calendar of Events***

#### ***September***

**2** LWVO conference call **noon to 1p.m.**, Toll free 866-740-1260 with prompt enter PIN 4691505#  
*Topic: Lake Erie Algae*

**9** Voter Registration Training, Main Library. **noon and 6p.m.** Kelly Meeting Room, first floor.

**13** Board Meeting

**23** National Voter Registration Day

**30** Early Voting begins

#### ***October***

**1** Ballot Issues Forum, 6pm Sanger Library, sponsored by Ability Center

**6** Voter Registration Deadline

**7** LWVO conference call **noon to 1p.m.**, Toll free 866-740-1260 with prompt enter PIN 4691505#

**25** Co-sponsor with NAACP-WIN Voter Education Brunch, Kent Branch Library. **10a.m. to 2p.m.**

#### ***November***

**4** General Election

**15** Board Meeting Sylvania Library, 6749 Monroe St. Sylvania. **11a.m. to 1p.m.**

LWVTLC is planning to register voters at several different locations on Tuesday Sept. 23 as part of the all out national event to get everybody who's eligible registered. This annual push for voter registration is aimed at creating a climate of awareness of registration opportunities that will reach thousands of Americans nationwide.

### **Registration Training Sessions**

As part of the preparation we are holding training sessions for anyone interested in participating in the registration effort. The sessions are at the Main Library Kelly Meeting Room on Sept. 9 at noon and again at 6 p.m They will cover all the information needed to help someone register.

### **Registration Sites and Partners**

So far there are several sites we'll be working on the 23rd, a seminar sponsored by the Alliance for Informed Citizens, the University of Toledo Student Union, the main Library. Our partner in this effort Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is working on securing a site at the Franklin Park Mall and at Woodward and Scott High Schools.

If you joined the league because you believe in maintaining our democracy and recognize registering voters and promoting voting as a way to do that, this is your chance to be part of that effort. Nervous about doing it? Come to a training session on Sept. 9.

### **Special Trifold Handout**

If registration is the first step toward active citizen participation, voting is the next. Toward that end Theresa Mills has prepared a neat little handout that gives the potential voter lots of information about how to go about voting, which offices are up for election, where to vote and also asks the voter to make a plan about when to vote. These nifty little trifolds will be available for the first time at the training sessions.

### ***A note about the logo.***

In celebration of the 90th anniversary of LWVUS the LWV logo included the note 90 yrs. That major milestone was reached in 2010. As we count up to the more significant 100-year mark we are recognizing on our logo not only the years that LWVUS has been in existence but also our own League, hence 94/93 years.

## President's Letter

Dear Leaguers,

The fall season is always very busy for League and this year is no exception. We are gearing up for the election season by preparing our Voters Guide. We're getting ready for National Voter Registration Day by holding voter registration classes at the Main Library open to anyone who wants to register voters and we'll be registering voters at UT, the main Library, at the Informed Citizens Alliance Seminar, and possibly at the Mall.

In October we'll be partnering with a couple of other groups to help educate voters. Bonnie Bishop will be speaking at the annual Ability Center Issues Forum, reminding our fellow citizens who are disabled about their voting rights. Late in the month we'll be hosting a voter education brunch aimed at young voters with the Women in the NAACP. Last year's program was so interesting we decided we had to do it again and hopefully we'll reach more young voters with the message that citizen participation is necessary to maintain our democracy.

We lost a great friend, mentor, colleague and leaguer this month with the passing of Peg Hull Smith. She will be dearly missed. She was a wise guide to me, always able to answer my questions and encourage me to continue trying to do all that is required for this job of president.

On that somber note I want to encourage us all to do what we can to support the mission of the League in honor of all of those women and men who have gone before us but who shared our commitment to making democracy work. See you on the 9th or the 23rd!

Before I close, I especially want to recognize and thank a former leaguer **Kathryn Marion** for her more than generous contribution to our general fund. That money has already been put to good use.

I also want to thank **Mary Karazim** for her generous memorial contributions to the League in honor of Karen Krause and Bill Searles; and to thank **Edwin** and **Frances Phillips** for their contribution to the general fund and **Marcia Michelson** for her contribution to the education fund. All of these generous contributions help us do the work of the League.

Yvette Thompson Gordon

### 2014-15 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** **Yvette Thompson Gordon**, 1141 Northville, Toledo, OH 43612 419-215-9326 [ythomp1141@aol.com](mailto:ythomp1141@aol.com)  
**Co-Vice President:** **Darcy Yates**, 7632 Shadywood Lane, Sylvania, OH 43560 419-885-1257. [darcyjyates@bex.net](mailto:darcyjyates@bex.net)  
**Co-Vice President:** **Kathy Chamberlain**, 10308 Obee Rd., Whitehouse, OH 43571 419-877-0028 [princess@tbbs.net](mailto:princess@tbbs.net)  
**Secretary:** **Nancy Hughes**, 3443 W. Lincolnshire Blvd., Toledo, OH 43606 419-531-5431 [nhughes4@mac.com](mailto:nhughes4@mac.com)  
**Treasurer:** **Meg Murphy**, 304 E. Superior St. Wauseon, OH 43567 419-335-8047 [mmurphy24@roadrunner.com](mailto:mmurphy24@roadrunner.com)  
**Pat Pedro Carmean**, 3844 W. Central Ave. Toledo, OH 43606 419-531-4186 [mpcarmean@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mpcarmean@sbcglobal.net)  
**Lucia Cooper**, 4449 Falconhurst Ct. Sylvania, OH 43560 419-283-6660 [CooperLucia@gmail.com](mailto:CooperLucia@gmail.com)  
**Kevin Haddad**, 4136 Shamley Green, Toledo, OH 43623 419-283-8626 [kevihad@live.com](mailto:kevihad@live.com)  
**Karla Johnson**, 3859 Hampstead Dr., Sylvania, OH 43560 419-843-8918 [searles2@frontier.com](mailto:searles2@frontier.com)  
**Uta Schaub**, 1907 Mount Vernon, Toledo, OH 43607 419-536-9751 [ulschaub@bex.net](mailto:ulschaub@bex.net)  
**Jonnie Taylor**, 2017 Circle Drive, Toledo, OH 43607 419-481-0036 [tamerri@aol.com](mailto:tamerri@aol.com)  
**Don Wonnell**, 5808 Whiteford Rd., Sylvania, OH 43560 419-882-2754 [don\\_w55@yahoo.com](mailto:don_w55@yahoo.com)

# Lake Erie Basin Committee Urges Advocacy for Proposed Rule Defining Waters of the U.S.

## **HB 5078 / SB 4296 limit EPA proposed rule making authority**

LEBC is urging leagues to speak out in support of the recently proposed EPA rule <http://www2.epa.gov/uswaters> clarifying the definition of Waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act (CWA). The public comment period expires October 20, 2014. This rule is meant to clarify what water comes under the EPA jurisdiction to comply with Supreme Court rulings, specifically Solid Waste Agency of Cook County {SWANCC} vs. USACE 1/9/2001 and Rapanos vs. US 6/19/2006. These decisions have resulted in current rules frequently requiring the evaluation of jurisdictions on a case by case basis interfering with clear and efficient implementation of the CWA, causing delay and confusion to the permitting process and adding expense to projects and delays pollution assessments and remedies. (see EPA rule proposal at above website) The proposed rule defines more specifically water that is and is not covered giving clear direction to those regulated and avoiding potential litigation.

In July, Rep. Southerland (R.,FL) sponsored **HB 5078 Waters of The United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act of 2014** co-sponsored by, among others, six representatives from Ohio: Bob Gibbs dist. 7, Robert Latta dist. 5, Steve Chabot dist. 1, Patrick Tiberi dist.12, David Joyce dist. 14. This bill has been reported from committee (find report at this site <https://beta.congress.gov/congressional-report/113th-congress/house-report/568/1>) and has currently been placed on the Union Calendar, which determines budgetary expense, if any, attached to this legislation. The report from committee is a thorough analysis of the bill by committee, including summary and dissenting views. The bill essentially would prevent the EPA from adopting the proposed rule and enshrine in law the current method of case by case, jurisdiction by jurisdiction evaluation process, preventing the EPA from issuing any clarifying rules without legislative remedy.

To register your comments regarding the proposed rule contact the EPA at the above site. If you wish to register your opinion about the proposed House of Representatives Bill 5078 or the complimentary Senate Bill 4296 contact any of the sponsors or your representative. Our Lucas County representatives are: **District 5 Rep. Robert Latta**, a co-sponsor of this bill, at 2448 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 202-225-6405 or 800-541-6446 Fax: 202-225-1985 or 800-278-8203, website [www.latta.house.gov](http://www.latta.house.gov) **District 9 Rep. Marcy Kaptur** at 2186 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515-3509 1 Maritime Plaza, Room 600, Toledo, OH 43604 202-225-4146 or 800-964-4699 and 419-259-7500 202-225-7711 and 419-255-9623 [rep.kaptur@mail.house.gov](mailto:rep.kaptur@mail.house.gov) [www.kaptur.house.gov](http://www.kaptur.house.gov)  
Our **senators: Sherrod Brown**, 713 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510-3503 888-896-6446 Fax: 202-228-6321 [senator\\_brown@brown.senate.gov](mailto:senator_brown@brown.senate.gov) [www.brown.senate.gov](http://www.brown.senate.gov) and **Rob Portman**, 448 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 202-224-3353 Fax: 202-224-9075 [rob\\_portman@portman.senate.gov](mailto:rob_portman@portman.senate.gov) <http://portman.senate.gov> 420 Madison Ave., Suite 1210, Toledo, OH 43604, 419-259-3895 Fax: 419-259-3899.

If you are interested in an informative read about the Great Lakes consider **The Great Lakes Water Wars** by Peter Annin

## ***FEDERAL COURT REINSTATES EARLY VOTING FOR GENERAL ELECTION***

Earlier this summer, the League of Women Voters of Ohio, together with the Ohio NAACP, Bethel AME Church, and ACLU of Ohio filed a lawsuit to protect Ohioans' voting rights. The lawsuit seeks to overturn recent actions by the Ohio General Assembly and Ohio Secretary of State to cut early voting days and hours.

Evidence shows that early voting specifically the early voting time periods that were cut are heavily used by African American voters.

The lawsuit alleges that these cuts to early voting days and hours violate the Voting Rights Act and the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution because they disproportionately harm minority voters. "Early voting opportunities are vital to Ohioans who have inflexible work schedules, childcare duties or other responsibilities that make it impossible to get to the Board of Elections during regular business hours. This ruling means voters will not see their access to the ballot compromised during the upcoming election. This is great news, and we look forward to the full trial and when these measures are fully struck down once and for all," said ACLU of Ohio Managing Attorney Freda Levenson.

---

## *LWVUS Convention Adopts Structures of Democracy Program*

### U.S. Constitution Study Committee Application

Applications are being accepted for the U.S. Constitution Study which is part of the three-part Structures of Democracy Program that delegates adopted at the 2014 LWVUS Convention. The LWVUS Board recommends a comprehensive three part program combining study and review of key, specific structures of American democracy, consisting of:

- 1.) A study of the process of amending the U.S. Constitution, including constitutional conventions;
- 2.) A review and update of the League position on campaign finance in light of forty years of change since the Watergate reforms, in order to enhance member understanding of the new schemes and structures used to influence elections and erode protections against corruption in our political process, and to review postponement of rapid change; and
- 3.) A review of the redistricting process for the U.S. Congress, through the existing redistricting task force, for the purpose of developing action steps.

The study will examine the application of Article V of the United States Constitution, which provides for amending the Constitution.

An which includes further description of the study focus is now posted online at <http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/1769812/Constitution-Study-Application>. Those interested in applying for the U.S. Constitution Study Committee should submit completed applications including resume, references and writing sample by September 18.

## *In Memoriam: Peg Hull Smith*

---

The League lost a dear friend, member, mentor when Peggy Hull Smith died last month. She had many roles during her long association with League. When she first joined her interest in children and juvenile justice drew her to create and head a committee/discussion group on juvenile justice issues. She served on the board for many years including four terms as co president from 2005 through 2009 and again in 2011. She was a co-president during the years of the lawsuit against the Governor and Secretary of State of Ohio filed by LWVO, LWVTLC and individuals whose voting rights had been denied. This was a time of intense work that included trips to Columbus followed by long waits for rulings and then more intense work on the settlement and then the follow-up monitoring began.

Peg and Bonnie Bishop became our eyes and ears at the Board of Elections. Peg was not one to shirk work she drew it like a magnet. She became our representative on the Community Shares board and its secretary, contributing many of the required service hours herself. At the same time she served a stint on the Lack Erie Basin Committee as its secretary, attending meetings wherever in Ohio or a member state they might be held.

Until illness struck she was always part of whatever league did, if not taking an active planning role then supportive of the effort. Hers was a calming nature. She had a quiet strength she lent to everyone and everything we did. She approached things analytically, going over the options, the potential solutions to whatever problem we were encountering and wasn't afraid to say "this is all we can do, this is what we have to do."

She will be remembered by those of us in the league who knew and loved her. The effects of her presence, the things she accomplished will exist long after we have ceased to be.

## *Goodbye and Good Luck Louise Bankey*

One of LWVTLC's oldest members, Louise Bankey has moved to Portland Oregon, nearer her daughter. At 90, she is still spry, although she no longer drives she walks three quarters of a mile to the grocery store.

Louise Bankey is a lifetime league member which means she's been in league over 50 years. She joined the Woodstock Ill League in 1946 or '47 and like many of us she joined because friends were involved and it sounded interesting. In three years she was president of that league. Reminiscing about those years she pointed out how few women were involved in politics. It was definitely an all boys club then.

When her husband's job brought them to Toledo she joined our local league. She knew and admired June Brown, a local environmental activist who knew all the local politicians and was an active LWVTLC member. Environmental concerns were a natural for Louise. Her father was the superintendent of a sewage treatment plant. He used to take her to work, show her the plant, explain how it worked and why it was important. It was fascinating and later in the 60's when Rachel Carson's Silent Spring and the burning Cuyahoga River sparked a new environmental movement Louise went all in. She was part of the League's Committee on the Environment, was one of our representatives for the Lake Erie Basin Committee, attended the local EPA meetings and the city/county water treatment sewage plant meetings. As a member of AAUW Women in History group she took on the role of Rachel Carson and performed as Carson for school children throughout the area.

Louise hasn't been really active in League for awhile but is supportive of our efforts and her work and study of environmental issues helped to shape our local League's platform plank on the environment. She reminds us that what League does: study and be alert and attentive to issues and then act on them is the way to get the most out of life. Be attentive, be alert to what is happening politically and all other ways and that will show the way toward action. Louise would love to hear from any of her league friends. Her email is not too reliable but her new address is 2210 S.E. 46 Ave. Portland OR 97215.



### The Voter

The Voter is published four times a year by the League of Women Voters of Toledo-Lucas County PO Box 2506, Toledo, OH 43606 419-475-4371. [www.lwvtoledo.org](http://www.lwvtoledo.org)

Fall 2014

Yvette Thompson Gordon, 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.



### 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: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
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) is also rate for associate members: non citizens and students under age 18.

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 to LWV Education Fund.*

League of Women Voters of  
Toledo-Lucas County  
P.O. Box 2506  
Toledo, OH 43606