



The VOTER

The Monthly Publication of the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

P.O. Box 712, Perrysburg, Ohio 43552

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LWVO Statehouse Day

What can be better — a room full of more than 100 League members from around the state hearing about important public policy issues directly from key policy-makers and experts and having the chance to ask them questions.

That is what is on tap for this year's LWVO Statehouse Day. The date is Tuesday, March 19, at the Riffe Building, 31st floor, 77 S. High Street, Columbus. Registration cost is \$35 for members.

Go on the LWVO Web Site to register.

April Meeting Will Feature Tour and Lunch At Innovative Maritime Academy of Toledo

On Tuesday, April 9 members of the Perrysburg League of Women Voters will tour the Maritime Academy of Toledo and have lunch. The academy is located at 803 Water Street in downtown Toledo.

One of Northwest Ohio's newest and most innovative tuition-free public schools, the Maritime Academy uses nautical themes to educate students in grades 5-12. All Maritime Academy students are referred to as "cadets" and are challenged to achieve academic excellence and develop leadership skills in preparation for college and the work world.

"Relatively few people in Ohio are aware of the vocational and career growth opportunities and the financial rewards of maritime or marine industry careers," says Founder and Superintendent Renee Marazon.



Maritime Academy of Toledo

Ms. Marazon, a Perrysburg resident, will be our tour guide. The tour will start at 11:30 a.m. and will take approximately 40 minutes. Lunch at the academy will follow the tour and will consist of soup and salad at a cost of \$10. The tour will be open to League members and their guests. Anyone who would like to carpool is asked to meet at Way Library at 11 a.m.

Reservations for the tour and lunch should be made with Nancy Kelley at nkway@gmail.com or 419-866-6013, so that we will have an accurate count for the lunch and tour.

The Maritime Academy is Ohio's first Marine Career Technical Education Program that fully equips cadets for maritime employment and service academy appointments upon graduation.

The Academy is the only marine deck, engine, and culinary High School Career Tech Education program in the U.S. graduating students with 30 semester hours of college credit, a passport, Transportation Worker Identification Card, Merchant Marine Credential, and making them ready to begin a lucrative career at sea, on tugboats, freighters, barges, oil rigs and in shipyards.

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Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

Web Site:

**www.perrysburg.
oh.lwvnet.org**

Presidents' Letter

Dear League Members:

I hope that you all have had an opportunity to attend many of the programs this year. I thought the attendance to our February meeting was wonderful. I hope you enjoyed getting acquainted with Bridgette Kabat and learning more about Perrysburg government/budget as much as I did. We had about half of our membership in attendance, which considering the weather and the fact that many of our members may have been out of town in warmer places was even more eventful. A special thank you to Nancy and her team ... we still have three excellent programs to finish out our year.

Just a few comments about our regional meeting. Most of the morning was focused on two areas: membership initiatives, and setting goals/priorities for the State LWV. I think they will probably combine the information of the four regional inputs, and we will see those results in our next state newsletter, or on the website. It was not clear what they intend to do regarding state issue 2, what will be the focus of the redistricting project. We were told that more information would be coming regarding redistricting the congressional districts.

Please plan to attend Sandy Bihn's presentation on the issues of Lake Erie basin. She will be discussing the carp invasion issue, but also other issues that affect our Lake Erie and the other Great Lakes. We are lucky to have Sandy as a presenter. Recently I read an out-of-town paper that recognized Sandy as an outstanding expert regarding our Lakes. Her presentation should be an excellent one with current information that will be important for all of us.

Carol Russell



Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday, March 19 — 7 p.m. The Asian Carp Situation in the Great Lakes .
Speaker: Sandy Bihn, Exec. Dir. /Water-Keeper.
Location: Way Library

Tuesday, April 9 — 11:30 a.m. Tour of Maritime Academy of Toledo with lunch following. Location: 803 Water St., Toledo

Tuesday, May 21— 10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting, LWVPA, **Carranor Club***
Noon Luncheon
LWVPA Scholarship presentation. Speaker: Mary Ellen Mazey, Ph.D., President of Bowling Green State University.
Location: **Carranor Club***

*New location for meeting

Maritime Academy of Toledo

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The Academy's Maritime Career Tech Education Program is the first and only in the State of Ohio and in the U.S., with its mission to cultivate a new generation of racially and gender diverse competent, job-ready mariners for the maritime industry.

With a student population of 212 cadets, the Academy introduces rural and urban students from Northwest Ohio to the navigable waterways of the Great Lakes and its confluent rivers.

Advocates of this type of technical school say these schools can help solve two difficult problems: reduce the soaring rate of high school dropouts in inner cities by encouraging students to explore maritime careers and someday provide a new source of manpower for the maritime industry.

"These schools are the best kept secret in America, which is a shame," commented Capt. Arthur H. Sulzer, U.S. Navy (Ret.) in a 2008 issue of *Work-Boat Magazine*. "If you offer these kids a reason to stay in school, then they will graduate, and the maritime industry offers some excellent opportunities."



Threat to Great Lakes Topic of March Meeting



Sandy Bihn, Executive Director and founder of the Western Lake Erie Waterkeeper Association, will be the guest speaker on Tuesday, March 19 for Topical Tuesday. The event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area and Way Library. The meeting will take place at 7 p.m. at Way Library. Ms. Bihn will speak about Asian carp in the Great Lakes.

Need a Ride to a LWVPA Meeting?

We want to make sure that everyone who wants to attend a Perrysburg League of Women Voters meeting is able to do so.

If you would like a ride to a meeting or if you would like to volunteer to pick up a member for a meeting, please contact LWVPA President Carol Russell by emailing crussell@bex.net or calling 419-931-4416.

We hope to see you at the March 19 meeting at Way Library.

Proposed Slate of LWVPA Officers for 2013-14

New officers (in bold type) will be voted on at annual meeting in May.

President	Nancy Kelley
Vice-President (Administrative)	vacant
Vice President (Program)	Carol Russell
Co-Vice Presidents (Membership)	Roseanne Barker Josette McCarthy
Recording Secretary	Mary Baldoni
Corresponding Secretary	Carole Bradford
Treasurer	Walter Hales (filling second year of this term)
Directors:	
Observer	Dodie Strauss
Harrison Rally Days	Kevin Rantanen
Public Relations	Carol Shepard
Natural Resources	Ann Hymel
Voter Service	Jacki Stedman
At Large	Joyce Quinlivan
Non-Board Positions:	
Hospitality	Evelyn Giffer, Mary Turain
Webmaster	Mary Clark
Finance Drive	Mary Clark
2014 Nominating Committee	Judith Reitzel Marie Obrock Stephanie Johnstone

2013 Nominating Committee — Marie Obrock, Jean Emch, Judith Reitzel, Carole Shepard, Dodie Strauss