

ANNUAL REPORT



League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

**Saturday, May 7, 2011
9:30 AM**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church
315 South College
Bowling Green, Ohio**

League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

59th Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 7, 2011 – 9:30 a.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church – 315 South College, Bowling Green

Welcome	Roger Anderson
Guest Speaker	Tim Brown Wood County Commissioner “The State of the County and the State Budget as It Impacts Local Government”
Business Meeting	Roger Anderson
Call to Order—quorum count	
Appointments: Parliamentarian	
Appointments: Minutes Review Committee	
Secretary’s Report	Ruth Ann Beaverson
Treasurer’s Report	Ellen Dalton
Budget: Proposal, discussion, adoption	Ellen Dalton
Program: Presentation, discussion, adoption	Elaine Spreitzer
Nominations and Elections	Maria Simon
Committee Report	
Nominations from the Floor	
Election of Officers and Directors	Roger Anderson
Other Business	
Adjourn	

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BOWLING GREEN, OHIO
58th ANNUAL MEETING
May 15, 2010

Members Present: Betty Jean Anderson, Roger Anderson, Beth Casey, Sheilah Crowley, Ellen Dalton, Janet DeLong, Joan Gordon, Anne Graves, Joyce Kepke, Sally Kilmer, Judith Knox, Pamela Krebs, Betty Laukhuf, Lee McLaird, Marge Miller, Phyllis Oster, Mary Lou Riday, Maria Simon, Janet Sorrells, Elaine Spreitzer, Bonnie Woods. Guest: Joy Potthoff

President Roger Anderson made welcoming remarks and introduced our speaker, Thomas R. Blaha, Executive Director of the Wood County Economic Development Commission. He spoke to members on “Economic Development in Wood County, Ohio,” providing historical background on the program and describing the current state of investment and business in our county. Alternative energy and transportation logistics are the strengths of our “virtual” metropolitan area of northwest Ohio.

The 58th Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, meeting at the Bowling Green Woman’s Club was called to order at 10:10 a.m. by President Roger Anderson, once again welcoming those present and thanking our speaker. Special thanks were given to Kay Sergent for her service as Program Vice President this past year, to Ruth Ann Beaverson and Lee McLaird for their work on the Annual Report, and to Flo Klopfenstein for her catering service for the meeting. Roger declared that a quorum of the membership was present and appointed Joan Gordon parliamentarian for the meeting. He next appointed a Minutes Review Committee consisting of Bonnie Woods, Sally Kilmer, Betty Laukhuf. and Lee McLaird, acting secretary for the meeting, will forward minutes to them for review.

Treasurer Joyce Kepke representing the budget committee reviewed the proposed budget for 2010-2011. This year the Board voted to raise our dues to \$55.00, to cover the per-member payments to LWVUS and LWVOhio, and the increase has been incorporated into planning for next year. Expenditures for the previous year were reviewed, particularly for the Rosie Haas Fund. Money from that fund will be transferred to the education fund budget over the next several years to help underwrite the cost of the Guide to Public Officials, until the fund is completely spent. The Audit review found the financial books to be in order. Although the economy had a negative effect on donations and contributions, our finances are sound. No suggestions were made from the floor. Joyce thanked Joan Callecod and Sue Rock who ably served on the budget committee. Joyce Kepke moved that the operating budget be adopted as presented. Joan Gordon seconded the motion. The motion passed. Joyce Kepke moved that the education fund budget be adopted as presented. Sheilah Crowley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Roger Anderson then presented the proposed program for 2010-2011, on behalf of Kay Sergent, program vice president. Editorial changes in the Diversity Policy and bylaws that did not appear in last year’s annual report have now been incorporated. Janet DeLong moved that we re-adopt the Education position as it appears in the annual report. Anne Graves seconded the motion. The motion passed. Janet DeLong moved that we re-adopt the Needs of the Elderly position as stated in the annual report. Bonnie Woods seconded the motion and the motion passed. Janet DeLong moved to re-adopt the Land Use position as stated in the annual report. Joyce Kepke seconded and the motion passed. Janet DeLong moved to re-adopt the Mental Health position as stated in the annual report. Betty Laukhuf seconded and the motion was passed. No other program suggestions were made from the floor. Members were encouraged to contact board members at any time about these positions.

Sally Kilmer presented the nominating committee report on behalf of Roberta Lane and the committee. The following nominations were presented:

Officers: Program Vice President—nominations from the floor; Treasurer, Ellen Dalton

Directors (2-year term): Judy Knox, and two to be nominated from the floor
Director (1-year term to succeed Ellen Dalton): Joyce Kepke
Nominating Committee: Anne Graves, and two to be nominated from the floor

Beth Casey nominated Elaine Spreitzer for the office of Program Vice President. Anne Graves seconded the nomination. No other nominations were made, so nominations were declared closed. Elaine Spreitzer was elected Program Vice President.

No other nominations for treasurer were made, so nominations were declared closed. Ellen Dalton was elected Treasurer.

Ellen Dalton nominated Phyllis Oster and Sally Kilmer for the positions of director (two-year term), seconded by Bonnie Woods. There were no further nominations from the floor, so nominations were declared closed. Judy Knox, Phyllis Oster, and Sally Kilmer were elected to the position of director (two-year term).

No other nominations for the position of director (one-year term) were made, so nominations were declared closed. Joyce Kepke was elected to that position.

Ellen Dalton nominated Kristin Vessey and Maria Simon to the Nominating Committee. There were no further nominations from the floor, so nominations were declared closed. Anne Graves, Kristin Vessey, and Maria Simon were elected to the Nominating Committee.

The new officers who were elected will take office July 1, 2010, and a joint board meeting with new and out-going members will be held June 29, 2010. President Anderson thanked the new officers and directors for their willingness to serve and wished all a pleasant and productive year. He read the list of continuing board members and urged everyone to contact a board member with any questions about our organization. Marge Miller will continue to serve next year as the chair of our finance drive, and Joan Callecod has agreed to chair a new committee on taxation and finance. Special thanks were extended to Char Scherer for her work on the LWVBG website and to Roberta Lane and the members of the nominating committee for their efforts. Many more personal thanks will be found in the President's Annual Report.

After a year in the presidency, Anderson is more convinced than ever that the services which League performs are vital and are recognized as such in our community. We are a reliable and stabilizing force in the body politic. The 2011 LWVO convention will be held at Maumee Bay State Park, with the theme of "Sustaining Democracy in Sustainable Communities." We will be one of four Leagues helping with local arrangements. Members were encouraged to attend.

Joan Gordon encouraged members to let her know contact information for any prospective new members. On behalf of the membership, Judy Knox thanked Roger Anderson for his service as our president. Anne Graves moved and Judy Knox seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was adopted.

Lee McLaird, Secretary Pro Tem

FINANCE DRIVE—Marge Miller

This year's finance drive brought in \$1,550.00 to the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green. 67 persons contributed. We were able to achieve the fund raising goals we set for ourselves. We appreciate our generous supporters, who make our work possible!

Finance Drive Contributors, 2010-2011

Amy Craft Ahrens	Barbara Klopfenstein
Roger and Betty Jean Anderson	Judy Knox
Michael Aspacher	Pamela Krebs
Jean & Tom Bamburowski	Betty Laukhuf
Ruth Ann Beaverson	Zella Jones Leventhal
Thomas Bennett	Lyn Long
Rebecca Bhaer	Harold Lunde
Rachel Blickensderfer	Nancy Mancuso
Hugh Caumartin	Lee McLaird
Pamela Chibucos	Patricia McGinnis
James Corbitt	Larry Mershman
Ramona Cormier	Marge Meserve
Norma Cristen	Marge Miller
Sheilah Crowley	Eric Myers
Ellen Dalton	Joanne Navin
Janet DeLong	Phyllis Oster
Nancy Fitzgerald	Mary Lou Riday
Sharon Gargasz	Jane Robb
Jim & Joan Gordon	Char Scherer
Anne Graves	Kay Sergeant
Ted Groat	Maria Simon
Emily Guion	Colleen Smith
Sharon Hanna	Elaine Spreitzer
Lee Hakel	Marcy St John
Cindy Hofner	Genevieve Stang
Mark Hollenbaugh	Norma Stickler
Jeannie Housholder	Thomas Stubbs
Tyne Hyslop	Margaret Tucker
Leslie Lotshaw Jan	Elizabeth Uhlman
Joyce Kepke	Kristin Vessey
Sally Kilmer	Cheryl Windisch
Sue Kinder	Bonadine Woods

Local Program Selection, 2010-2011

One of the purposes of the Annual Meeting is to adopt program for the ensuing year. Program consists of items that have received study and on which this League has a stated position, which can be used as a basis for action in the community; these are called position statements. The League may also adopt study items; these are items of current community interest that the League would like to study, usually with the idea of formulating a position statement (or modifying a current position) based on their findings. The Board of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green recommends the re-adoption of the local positions on Needs of the Elderly, Mental Health, and Land Use, and the adoption of the position on Public School Education, replacing the one adopted in 1996.

Education (Adopted 2009)

The League supports high standards of education at all levels, including adequate and appropriate programs for the gifted and for students with special needs.

The League supports adequate and appropriate use of technology within all content areas at all levels.

The League supports the provision of vocational and technical education without duplicating programming at Penta Career Center.

The League supports and promotes a balanced program of extracurricular activities at all levels.

The League supports sufficient funding and accountability of programs and facilities at all levels.

Needs of the Elderly (updated 2005-2006)

League supports efforts to maintain or improve the quality of life of the elderly population in Wood County.

The needs of the elderly population in Wood County steadily increase due to longevity and the problems of health, finance, and other difficulties that accompany longevity. On the other hand, financial support for services to the elderly by federal and state governments is not keeping up with inflation.

Land Use (updated 2005-2006)

In order to maintain the quality of life in our small city, our League continues to support careful long-range planning. Because change is occurring rapidly, we believe that the Bowling Green Comprehensive Plan needs to be kept current.

In addition, the League supports:

- A. Top priority for the acquisition and maintenance of open space for public use.
- B. Cooperation between governmental agents of the city of Bowling Green and the trustees of adjacent townships.
- C. Public accessibility of the most recent version of the Comprehensive Plan, with any revisions dated and made evident.
- D. Support of a precautionary moratorium on all new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) that produce untreated animal waste. Support of improved and similar waste water transportation and treatment systems on each CAFO site within Wood County as required by the State of Ohio of municipalities producing the same volume of waste, with safe nutrient management practices and disposal of sludge, in order to maintain adequate water quality standards in our aquifers, ground and surface waters.

Mental Health (re-adopted 2009)

The League supports maintaining the present level of mental health and substance abuse services in Wood County, and also supports improving such services whenever possible.

The Ohio Mental Health Act of 1988 requires less restrictive treatment for those with disabilities/illnesses related to such problems. Financial support for these essential services has not increased in proportion to the needs of Wood County residents.

Proposed Local Education Study for 2011-2012

A proposed local education study for 2011-2012 was proposed at the Program Planning Review Meeting January, 18, 2011 and recommended by the Board at its March 16, 2011 meeting for approval at the May 7, 2011 Annual Meeting.

In 2011 the LWVBG will update the local education position. The focus will be:

1. Monitoring the effects of the reduction in state funding on the BG School District in all areas including class size, size of staff, number of courses offered, enrichment programs, extra-curricular activities including athletics, services for students, and other areas as appropriate.
2. Exploring the school district's anti-bullying policies and programs along with their efforts.

Scope: The study may include not only funding and anti-bullying procedures but also such aspects as the role of the teacher in the classroom, the learning environment, and different points of view on all such topics.

LWVBG Nominating Committee Report

Committee: Maria Simon, Chair; Anne Graves, Kristin Vessey, Phyllis Oster, Sally Kilmer

Officers will take office July 1, 2011

The committee was charged with finding candidates for the following:

- President (2-year term)
- Vice President for Membership (2-year term)
- Secretary (2-year term)
- 4 Directors (2-year terms)
- 3 Nominating Committee Members (1-year term)

The following will be placed in nomination:

- President: Joan Gordon
- VP for Membership: Joyce Kepke
- Secretary: Lee N. McLaird
- Directors
 - Roger Anderson
 - Marie Simon
 - Ruth Ann Beaverson
 - Joan Callecod

Nominating Committee for 2012 (1 year term)

- Kristin Vessey, Chair
- Sue Rock
- Kay Sergent

Continuing Board Members

- Judy Knox
- Sally Kilmer
- Phyllis Oster

Retiring Board Members

- Janet DeLong

BYLAWS and POLICIES

League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, Ohio As last amended May 31, 2003

ARTICLE I

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

ARTICLE II Purpose and Policy

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate.

ARTICLE III Membership

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

- a. Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years of age who are enrolled in the League
- b. Associate members shall be all other enrolled members
- c. Life membership may be granted to any voting members who attain 50 years of membership. No further dues will be collected and all privileges will be retained as voting members.

ARTICLE IV Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, eight elected directors and not more than eight appointed directors. Four of the elected directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding eight, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and shall expire June 30 following the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization except a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors until the next Annual Meeting. Three consecutive absences from a board meeting of any member without a valid reason shall be deemed a resignation.

Section 4. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instruction of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. Meetings. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board.

Section 6. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The officers of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be a President, a Membership Vice President, a Program Vice President, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected for terms of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office July 1. The President, the Membership Vice President, and the Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Program Vice President and the Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

Section 2. The President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors; may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes; shall be, ex-officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. The Vice Presidents. The Vice Presidents shall be responsible for membership and program, respectively, and other duties as assigned by the President or Board. At the first board meeting following the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors shall designate one of the Vice Presidents to serve as President if that office becomes vacant. In the event either Vice President is unable to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its elected Members, if possible, to fill the vacancy. If no current Board member is able to fulfill the position, a members shall be appointed provided that person has served at least one term on the Board.

Section 4. The Secretary. The Secretary shall keep minutes of all meetings of the League and of all meetings of the Board of Directors; shall notify all officers and directors of their election; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 5. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies due; shall be the custodian of these monies, deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, disburse the same only upon order of the Board; and shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI Financial Administration

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall commence on the first day of July each year.

Section 2. Dues. Annual dues to be voted on at the Annual Meeting shall be payable by October 15. Any member who fails to pay dues within two months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 3. Budget. A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. Budget Committee. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall be a member, but not eligible to chair the committee.

Section 5. Disbandment. In case of disbandment of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, all monies and securities shall be transferred to the "Marilyn Singleton Memorial Fund" at Bowling Green High School; should that fund not be in existence, then to the League of Women Voters of Perrysburg. All other property of whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed, which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall be disposed of by any officer of the organization, or corporation for such public, charitable, or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the Board of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least three meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held before the end of the fiscal year, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall

- a. adopt a local program for the ensuing year
- b. elect officers, directors, and three members of the nominating committee
- c. adopt an adequate budget
- d. transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum. Twenty percent of the members of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings when a vote is taken.

ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members: the chairman and two members elected at the Annual Meeting, and two board members appointed by a newly-elected Board of Directors.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the floor. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the report of the Nominating Committee at the Annual meeting, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee has been secured.

Section 3. Elections. The election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for every nominee. The majority vote of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE IX Program

Section 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of the program.

Section 2. Program. The program of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green shall consist of

- a. action to implement the principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States and the League of Women Voters of Ohio and
- b. those local issues chosen for concerted study and action

Section 3. Current Agenda and Continuing Responsibilities. These categories of program are defined as follows:

- a. The current agenda shall consist of those local governmental issues that the membership shall choose for sustained attention and concerted action.
- b. The continuing responsibilities shall consist of positions on local governmental issues to which the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green has given sustained attention and on which it may continue to act.

Section 4. Action by the Annual Meeting. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the program using the following procedures:

- a. The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a proposed program.
- b. The proposed program shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting.
- c. A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the proposed program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors
- d. Recommendations for program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered by the Annual Meeting provided that:
 1. The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote and
 2. The Annual Meeting shall adopt the item by a majority vote
- e. Changes in the program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made, provided that information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed and final action taken.

Section 5. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X National Convention, State Convention and Council

Section 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the national office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. State Convention. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provisions of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

Section 3. State Council. The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office shall select delegates to that council in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green under the provision of the bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.

ARTICLE XI Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the most recent edition of Roberts' Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE XII Amendments

Section 1. Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

NON-PARTISAN POLICY STATEMENT (Adopted February 2000, re-adopted 2010)

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green may take action on governmental measures and policies in the public interest. However, it shall not support or oppose any party or candidate.

Board members shall not run for or hold partisan elective office. If a Board member declares for a partisan elective office, the member shall resign from the Board. Public notices released by League announcing the resignation of a Board member to run for political office shall be carefully worded to avoid the appearance of endorsing the resigning Board member's candidacy.

Board members' activities must be limited to preserve the League's non-partisan position. The President and the Voters Service Chair shall not participate in any partisan way at any level.

A Board member may serve on any public board, commission, committee, or coalition. However, that Board member does not represent the League unless officially designated as a League representative by the LWVBG Board.

A Board member may not speak or work against a League position in any way.

The political activities of a spouse or relative of a Board member are to be considered as separate and distinct from the activities of the Board member.

DIVERSITY POLICY (Adopted May 1998, re-adopted 2010)

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green affirms its belief in, and commitment to, reflecting the diversity of the community in its membership, leadership, and programs.

PRESIDENT—Roger Anderson

I have enjoyed serving as the first male President of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green. I could not have done my job without the great support of the Board, some outstanding committees and committee chairs, and you, the members.

Our League had a very active, rewarding year. We sponsored four League-member only programs and sponsored or helped sponsor two public programs. In addition we were active at the regional and state league level. A number of Land Use Committee members attended the summer and fall Lake Erie Basin Committee meetings. Five members attended the LWV Perrysburg area birthday celebration for the LWVUS's 90th year on September 26, 2010 at the 577 Foundation in Perrysburg. Nine members attended the annual holiday lunch December 14, 2010 in Perrysburg, sponsored by the Perrysburg League. The featured speaker was Steve Pollick, Outdoor Editor of the **Toledo Blade**.

Four league members attended the February 22, 2011 program on First Solar at the Way Library in Perrysburg, co-sponsored by the Library and the Perrysburg League. Six members attended the February 26, 2011 LWVO Regional Meeting in Perrysburg on "Advocacy: Jumpstarting at the Local Level" with Jean Koznarek, LWVO Vice President, as discussion leader. Four members attended LWVO State House Day in Columbus on April 7th.

Lee McLaird and your President have served on the planning committee for the LWVO State Convention, May 13-15, 2011 at Maumee Bay State Park. The committee, made up of representatives from our League, Perrysburg's, Tiffin's, and Toledo's, plus LWVO Vice President Jean Koznarek have met regularly once a month for the past two years. At least eight to ten of our members will be attending the State Convention in some capacity.

Locally, we started our program year with 34 in attendance at our September 25 brunch and program at the Woman's Club featuring Dr. David Jackson, Associate Professor of Political Science, B.G.S.U. who gave an informative talk on "Trends to Watch in the November Elections."

On Sunday night October 17, 2010 we co-sponsored the annual public Candidates Forum at the First United Methodist Church with the Perrysburg area League. We also received assistance in presenting the event from the B.G.S.U. Retirees Association, the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce, the Bowling Green AAUW, and the B.G.S.U. Undergraduate Student Government. 97 attended including 13 League members.

A panel of four League members, Joan Callecod, Ellen Dalton, Joyce Kepke, and Kristin Vessey provided the background information needed for twenty-two League members plus one to develop a consensus on the LWVO's state tax position update at a League meeting on November 9, 2010 at the First Presbyterian Church in Bowling Green.

On January 25, 2011, following a delicious soup, salad and desert dinner at Vice President of Programs, Elaine Spreitzer's, twenty-one members met to review the state and local league positions. We decided that because of recent changes in state educational policies and new issues that we would recommend to the Board and to the members a study of the local education position in preparation for an update.

Over forty attended the public program on the health of Lake Erie and the Maumee Bay Watershed held on March 15, 2011 co-sponsored by Bowling Green Parks and Recreation at the Simpson Building. Featured speaker was Sandy Bihn, Western Lake Erie Waterkeeper.

Twelve members attended an interesting and fascinating tour of the Bowling Green Waste Water Treatment Plant on April 14th. Many stayed for lunch in downtown Bowling Green at NASLADA.

As I leave the Presidency I want to thank the Program Vice President, Elaine Spreitzer; the Membership Vice President and Editor of the **Voter**, Joan Gordon; the Secretary, Ruth Ann Beaverson, and the Treasurer, Ellen Dalton; and Directors, Janet DeLong, Joyce Kepke, Sally Kilmer, Judy Knox, Lee McLaird, Phyllis Oster, and Maria Simon for their supportive service. Thanks to Marge Miller, who chaired another successful finance drive.

Thank you to the Voter Service Chair, Judy Knox and the entire hardworking committee. Thanks also to another outstanding committee, the Land Use Committee, and especially its Chair, Janet DeLong. We will miss your valuable service on the Board. Also thanks to the Ad Hoc State Tax Position update Committee chaired by Joan Callecod. The International Relations Committee under Betty Laukuf's leadership desires praise for its commitment in working with the Middle School teachers and students on its food and nutrition project.

Finally, thanks to all of you, our Members who make this an outstanding League!

PROGRAM VICE PRESIDENT—Elaine Spreitzer

First of all, thank you to the Board members of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green for your help and kindness for the year 2010-2011.

The year in review:

Membership Meeting, September 25, 2010 at the Woman's Club at 9 a.m.: Breakfast catered by Flo Klopfenstein followed by an informative and witty talk by Dr. David Jackson, Associate Professor of Political Science, B.G.S.U., on "Trends to Watch in the November Elections." 34 attended.

Candidates Forum, October 17, 2010 at the First United Methodist Church at 6:30 p.m. Co-sponsored with the LWV Perrysburg area. Assistance from the Bowling State University Retirees Association, the Bowling Green Chamber of Commerce, the Bowling Green AAUW, and the B.G.S.U. Undergraduate Student Government. 97 attended including 13 League members.

Consensus Meeting on League State Finance Taxation Position Update, November 9, 2010, First Presbyterian Church, 7 p.m. 21 League members attended plus one guest.

Souper Supper and Review of State and Local League Positions, January 25, 2011, Elaine Spreitzer's home, 6:30 p.m. We agreed to study our local education position in 2011-2012 for possible update. 21 members in attendance. A fun evening of delicious food and League planning.

"The Battle for Lake Erie," March 15, 2011 public program co-sponsored by Bowling Green Parks and Recreation at the Simpson Building at 7 p.m. Western Lake Erie Waterkeeper, Sandy Bihn spoke on the health of the Lake Erie Basin and the Maumee Bay Watershed. Over 40 in attendance. A very informative evening.

Tour of the Bowling Green Wastewater Treatment Plant, April 14, 2011, 9:30 a.m. Twelve members received an explanation of how the facility operates.

Annual Meeting and Program, May 7, 2011 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church at 9:30 a.m. Speaker will be Tim Brown, Wood County Commissioner on "State of the County and the Impact of the State Budget on Local Governments." Breakfast catered by Flo Klopfenstein.

MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT --- Joan Gordon

With four new members and two non-renewals, the Membership for 2010-2011 stayed about the same as in previous years. As of April 19, 2011, membership stood at 49. The membership meeting in September featured Dr. David Jackson, associate professor of political science at Bowling Green State

University, who spoke on "Trends to Watch For in the November Elections." The membership vice president invited all persons (non-members) who had contributed to the finance drive to attend this meeting. Membership was promoted at community events as well as League programs. Promotional materials included posters, a display of information on voting, brochures for LWVUS and LWVBG, The Voter, Guide to City Officials, and other specific topics. Major events included the annual Candidates Forum and several smaller community events where promotional material is displayed. The job of membership is every member's responsibility. The public sees the good the League does, but prospective members need to be asked! Plan to bring a prospective member to the 2011 Membership Meeting in September.

VOTER SERVICE COMMITTEE: Roger Anderson, Ruth Ann Beaverson, Sheilah Crowley, Ellen Dalton, Joyce Kepke, Pam Krebs, Lee McLaird, Char Scherer, and Judy Knox, Chair.

In the summer of 2010 we began planning the October 17 Candidates Forum and writing questions for the Voter Guide. Sheilah Crowley sent Save the Date cards and then, in August, the formal invitations to the candidates. Joyce Kepke organized and oversaw the Voter Guide process through the final printing in the Sentinel Tribune, This included coordinating with the Perrysburg and Toledo Leagues to whom LWVOH had assigned several candidates. Joyce submitted questions to the candidates electronically, organized the responses, and electronically submitted them to the Sentinel-Tribune. Char Scherer assisted in this process, posting the Voter Guide on our website as well as a link to the Board of Elections for voting information. The Sentinel-Tribune also posted the Voter Guide on its website. Ellen Dalton worked with BGSU to publicize the event. Throughout the process we informed the Democratic and Republican party chairs of dates and events.

The Candidates Forum held at the First United Methodist Church (thanks, Lee McLaird) was co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area, American Association of University Women, BG Chamber of Commerce, BGSU Retirees Association, and BGSU Student Government.. The moderator was Josette McCarthy of the LWVPBA. Advertisements were placed in the Sentinel-Tribune. A number of League members worked the event, with about 100 in attendance. Seven candidates appeared, fewer than expected due to last minute cancellations.

In December 2010 Joyce Kepke and Judy Knox attended an election audit of the November election at the Wood County Board of Elections. This audit was required by the Ohio Secretary of State as part of the settlement of the successful lawsuit filed by LWVOH and others. Another audit will occur after the November 2012 election.

In the first week of March, 1,100 Guide to Public Officials were distributed to members, contributors and the public. Thanks again to Jim Gordon for his "windmill" photograph and to Joan Gordon for assembling the brochure. Joyce Kepke and Judy Knox did the content research. The Guides are funded by the LWVBG Education Fund, the Rosie Haas Memorial Fund and the Democratic and Republican parties.

League members distributed the VOTE TUESDAY signs a week before the May and November elections. We again provided registration information to new BGSU Faculty and gave folders of voting information to five nursing home activities directors.

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Janet DeLong, chair; Roger Anderson, Dorothea Barker, Joyce Kepke, Sally Kilmer, Kim Layden, Sue Rock, Kristin Vessey

The Land Use Committee members are Roger Anderson, Dorothea Barker, Joyce Kepke, Sally Kilmer, Kim Layden, Sue Rock, Kristin Vessey, and Janet DeLong.

The *Battle for Lake Erie* was the title of the March 15th meeting held at the Simpson Building. Nearly 40 people attended. Kristin Vessey provided background of the League of Women Voters grass roots process for arriving at a position. A League may speak officially when supported by a position. “Water – more valuable than oil” was the message presented by Sandy Bihn, Western Lake Erie Waterkeeper. Lake Erie Waterkeepers, Inc. is one of the organizations that monitor the health of the lake. As the shallowest of the lakes, Lake Erie shows the effects of change before some of the deeper lakes. The very shallow western basin is extremely important for fish reproduction and is also very vulnerable. Through monitoring and studying the lakes, it is hoped that subtle changes can be identified and corrected before irreversible damage occurs. Bihn believes demand for fresh water will increase and there will be strong pressure to divert Great Lakes water to other parts of the country. Diversion will cause changes in lake level and other changes to the lake ecology. The Great Lakes Compact legislation has been approved by both the United States and Canada with the goal of providing protection, but sound science and strong leadership will be required to protect the lakes. The Land Use Committee sponsored a tour of the Bowling Green Wastewater Treatment Plant on April 14th. Twelve members learned about the numerous treatment processes that have been implemented to improve the water discharged into the Portage River. One of the more difficult issues that Bowling Green faces is that the city has a combined (ground water and wastewater) sewer system. Heavy rains have overwhelmed the treatment system and allowed untreated water to enter the Portage. The city is continuing to increase capacity and at the same time has implemented protocols that hold back some of the excess water, until it can be processed through the system. Attendees ended the morning with lunch at Naslada’s Bistro.

A wide range of environmental issues are tracked by the Land Use Committee. Of special interest this year has been blue green algae. Due to weather conditions and nutrient loads, all Ohio lakes were monitored in summer 2010 and “no contact” advisories were issued when appropriate. The algae blooms produce toxins that are harmful to humans. One of these, anatoxin-a is a neurotoxin, which if ingested can adversely affect the nervous system. Another concern that emerged this year has been the process of “fracking” in the extraction of natural gas. High pressure water and other products are used to create pressure underground such that the shale separates so that gas is released. The other products are considered proprietary, and therefore undisclosed. There is concern about contamination of ground water and aquifers that supply drinking water. Fracking is being used throughout the [Marcellus shale](#) in Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio. It has been banned in New York state pending further study.

Continuing interests of the Land Use Committee include preservation and quality of the Great Lakes and its tributaries. This includes invasive species, groundwater runoff of nutrients such as phosphorus, nitrogen, manure, herbicides and other chemicals. The current interest in wind power raises concerns due to our proximity to two major migratory bird pathways. Finally, the committee continues to encourage sustainable agriculture through support of local growers, farmers markets, and community gardens. –Janet DeLong

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Betty Laukhuf, Chair; Dorothea Barker, Judy Miller, Vijaya Shrestha, and Elaine Spreitzer

This is the second year the committee has been studying the topic of food and its global ramifications. This year the Committee wanted to go beyond presenting information to League members and adult

populations by jointly collaborating with students and teachers in the Bowling Green City Schools Middle School. We wanted student perspectives. A contact was made with science teacher, Amy Dible. The committee met with Amy, who was most interested in the project. Amy shared the Ohio Academic Content Standards integrating the contributions League members could make. For eg., one standard under SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY is "Explain that variables and controls can affect the results of an investigation and that ideally one variable should be tested at a time." To incorporate this, Elaine taught a lesson having students at stations analyze cereal box contents and then journal and discuss results. Another standard under SCIENCE AND SOCIETY is, "Describe how the work of science requires a variety of human abilities such as reasoning, skepticism, and openness." Judy incorporated this by teaching a lesson sharing her collage of the many components of food, such as economic, political, advertising, emotional, and peer influence, to name a few. Then students created their own collages and participated in discussions. Phyllis, a BGSU retiree from the Genetics lab, is in process of teaching a LIFE SCIENCE lesson related to the Standards. Dorothea, an avid bird watcher, will assist in the DIVERSITY AND INTERDEPENDENCE OF LIFE standard.

Much credit must be given to Amy Dible, an outstanding, invitational teacher, who embraced the League participation and contribution. She commented, "This was so worthwhile that I hope it can be an ongoing connection. One of my goals this year was to have more community involvement and this was perfect." Amy, previously, knew nothing about League and the Committee intends to give her a first year membership. League members learned much by becoming familiar with Ohio Academic Content Standards and student views. The Committee also intends to write a letter of commendation to the Superintendent and Board of Education president for Amy's participation and willingness to collaborate with the League.

THE VOTER—Joan Gordon, Editor

Last year, the e-mails of members were updated and all but three members of the BG League now receive The Voter (in color) by e-mail. The goal of The Voter newsletter continues to be the dissemination of information of importance and interest to LWVBG members. The seven issues during 2010 provided material on technology in our schools, local, state, and national legislation, election trends, taxes and the tax structure, program planning, and our candidates' forum. Promotion of meetings and programs is also part of the each issues.

ACTION: LETTERS

A summary of dates and topic follows:

Date	Topic	Author(s)
10/11/10	League of Women Voters Endorses 2 Ordinances	Roger Anderson
10/19/10	League Endorses Library Levy	Roger Anderson
10/20/10	League Endorses Library Levy	Ellen Dalton, Roger Anderson
10/22/10	BG League Supports Health Levy	Roger Anderson
10/2010	Election Time in Bowling Green	Judy Knox
12/15/10	Questions About Provisional Ballots Answered	Roger Anderson

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green endorses Bowling Green City Ordinances Numbers 7905 and 7906 and recommends a “yes” vote on each referendum in the November election. Our endorsement is based on the League of Women Voters U.S.’s position on Social Policy, Equality of Opportunity which addresses protections from discrimination in employment and housing.

It should be noted that both ordinances have been endorsed by the Bowling Green Human Relations Commission, the Ohio Civil Rights Commission, and the Fair Housing Center. Similar ordinances have been adopted in Toledo, Athens, Akron, Oxford, Yellow Springs, Dayton, Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Columbus.

The ordinances will increase protection of rights for all citizens. Approval of the ordinances will continue to make Bowling Green a welcoming community for all and an outstanding place to live and work.

Roger Anderson, President
League of Women Voters of Bowling Green
463 Truman
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

To the Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green endorses the .8 mill five year operating levy for the Wood County District Public Library on the November 2 ballot. Libraries are an essential part of everyone’s education. We base our endorsement on the LWV United States’ position on primary and secondary education and the LWV of Ohio’s positions on primary and secondary education and on higher education. Even though there are school and university libraries in the Wood County public library district, the Wood County District Library is important for all students’ learning experiences.

In the past the Wood County District Library received 92% of its revenues from the state of Ohio. However, as state revenues have declined, funding for the WCDPL has decreased by 33% or almost \$900,000 per year.

The Wood County District Public Library has already cut staff. They have reduced their budgets for books and materials by 50%. In addition, library hours have been reduced, and employee furloughs have been necessary over the past few years.

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green recommends a “yes” vote on the library levy in the coming election.

Roger Anderson, President
League of Women Voters of Bowling Green
463 Truman Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
419-354-6451

To the Editor

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green endorses the Bowling Green School District’s request for a 1.6 mills emergency operating levy on the November 2 ballot. Our endorsement is based on the LWV United States’ and the LWV Ohio’s positions on education, and our local position on education. In our position we state that we support high standards of education and sufficient funding and accountability of programs and facilities at all levels.

The levy is for a five year period and will generate \$1 million to enable the Bowling Green School District to balance its budget until June, 2012. If passed, the levy will cost a homeowner with \$100,000 of appraised property value, \$49.00 a year.

Quality schools are one of the foundations of a healthy community, and one of the keys to attracting and retaining businesses and residents. Bowling Green Schools have been rated Excellent by the state of Ohio. Unfortunately, over the last two years the BG School District has had to cut approximately \$2 million from its budget because of cuts in support from the state for education and because of declining revenues as a result of the economic downturn. In the last ten years the district has eliminated 21 positions, closed one elementary school, and made significant reductions in programs.

To maintain the high quality Excellent educational programs at BG District Schools, the League of Women Voters of Bowling encourages voters to vote for the levy on November 2.

Ellen Dalton, Education Committee
League of Women Voters of Bowling Green
217 Clay Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
Roger Anderson, President
League of Women Voters of Bowling Green
463 Truman Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

To The Editor:

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green endorses the .5 mill Wood County Health Department replacement levy for ten years. The purpose of the levy is to provide health services to infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly, and for environmental and health education programs. Public health provides a safety net of services for those without insurance or resources to pay for care.

The League of Women Voters of the United States' position on Health Care supports a basic level of quality care. The position states that "every U.S. resident should have access to a basic level of care that includes prevention of disease, health promotion and education, (and) primary care..."

The League also supports programs that "promote the well being, encourage the full development and ensure the safety of all children." The Women, Infants and Children Nutrition Program, Early Intervention Program, the Bureau for Children with Medical Handicaps, and Teen Pregnancy Prevention are all programs carried out at the health department.

In the area of environmental protection and pollution control, the League believes that all levels of government share in responsibility. Often county health departments are the point of contact for citizen inquiries or complaints regarding environmental protection and water and air pollution controls.

Levy funds contributed 31% of the Wood County Health Department revenues in 2009. State funding in 2010 for the department dropped from 27 cents per citizen to 16 cents per citizen, a nearly 40% drop. This money supports services that have no other funding source.

The League of Women Voters of Bowling Green recommends a "yes" vote on the Wood County Health Department levy in the November 2, 2010 election.

Roger Anderson, President
League of Women Voters of Bowling Green
463 Truman Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
419-354-6451

Letter to the Editor

It is election time and time for all students (residents) registered in Bowling Green to vote. Election day is November 2. However, absentee voting began on September 28. You can apply to the Board of Elections for an absentee ballot to be sent to you or you can vote in person at the BOE at One Courthouse Square. For more information go to the Board of Elections web site, www.co.wood.oh.us/boe.

On the ballot are candidates for state offices, U.S. House of Representative, U.S. Senate, Ohio House of Representative, Ohio Supreme Court Justices, Court of Appeals Judges, State School Board and county officials.

There are also a number of important issues on the ballot: a first-time library levy, a school operating levy, a city fire and ambulance levy, a health department replacement levy and two ordinances dealing with discrimination in housing and employment.

Nonpartisan information about candidates and issues can be found on the Sentinel Tribune web site, www.sentinel-tribune.com by clicking on News and then Voters Guide, and on the League of Women Voters web site, www.wcnet.org/~lwvbg, Voters Guide.

Judy Knox, Voter Service Chair, Bowling Green League of Women Voters

Letter to the Editor

Many questions were raised about provisional ballots during and after the recent elections. Questions included what are they, who qualifies to receive them, and how are they counted after the election. I will attempt to clear up some misconceptions about provisional ballots.

The Wood County Board of Elections Polling Officials Manual defines a provisional ballot as “a paper ballot given to a voter who claims to be properly registered to vote and whose qualification or entitlement to vote cannot be immediately established at the polling location.”

Under Ohio law if a voter meets one or more of the following criteria the voter is to be given a paper provisional ballot: the voter’s name is not found in the Poll List; behind the voter’s name is marked “absentee” in the Poll List or the name is listed on the Supplemental List, which indicates the voter may have already voted an absentee ballot; behind the voter’s name is marked Voter Notification Card Returned in the Poll List; the voter does not provide proper or valid ID at the polls; the voter refuses to provide ID; the voter has changed his or her name after voter registration; the voter has moved from one Ohio precinct to another without notifying the Board of Elections; a signature in the Poll List does not match the current signature; and/or the voter was challenged before the election, a hearing held, and the challenge was found by the board of elections to have merit.

After the polls close on election night, all ballots including electronic, paper, and provisional ballots are delivered to the Board of Elections properly secured. The Board of Elections tally the electronic votes first followed by the counted previously-cast absentee and paper ballots. The Board then has twenty-one days to verify and count the additionally absentee and provisional ballots before the final certification of all ballots.

When a voter goes to the polls they must provide one acceptable form of identification. Acceptable forms of ID to vote a regular ballot include: a current photo ID with the voter’s name and current address as they appear in the Poll List. An Ohio driver’s license or a State ID is acceptable if the current address is listed in the Poll List. A second acceptable ID is a valid military identification card or a copy of such. A third form is a current utility bill with the correct name and current address of the voter. A fourth acceptable ID is a bank statement with the current name and address listed. Other

acceptable IDs included a government check, a pay check, and a government document. All must include a current name and address. All addresses must be in the precinct the voter intends to vote in.

Under Ohio law the following are unacceptable forms of ID because they do not have the current address: a driver’s license or state ID from another state; a social security card; a birth certificate unless the voter lives where he/she was born; an insurance card, and a passport.

I hope this clears up many of the questions citizens had about proper identification and provisional ballots. For further information you can contact the Wood County Board of Elections at www.co.wood.oh.us/BOE.

Roger Anderson
 President, League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

Presidents of League of Women Voters of Bowling Green

Berniece Smith	1952-1953	Marilyn Singleton	1985-1986
Marjorie Nordmann	1953-1957	Ruth “Connie” Varney	1986-1987
Ann Baty	1957-1961	Darlene Householder	1987-1989
Margaret Tucker	1961-1963	Rosalind Streichler	1989-1990
Florence Patrick	1963-1965	Becky Bhaer	
Marilyn Hutton	1965-1967	and Trish Crowley	1990-1991
Nancy Kinney	1967-1969	Marlene Purdy	1991-1994
Virginia Hamre	1969-1971	Michaelle Crowley	
Lucy Keil	1971-1973	and Jean Smith	1994-1995
Joyce Kepke	1973-1975	Anne Graves	1995-1997
Kristin Vessey	1975-1977	Kay Sergent	1997-1999
Suzanne Crawford	1977-1979	Barbara Lee	1999-2001
Sally York	1979-1981	Cathy Marcson	2001-2005
Kay Sergent	1981-1983	Kristin Vessey	2005-2009
Ruth “Connie” Varney	1983-1985	Roger Anderson	2009-2011

Past President’s Award

This award, presented by the outgoing president, is given to a deserving League member who has exemplified League principles with her time and talents.

Recipient	Year	Recipient	Year
Ann Baty	1983	Barbara Lee	1997
Marlene Purdy	1985	Kristin Vessey	1999
Marilyn Singleton	1986	Cathy Marcson	2001
Jean Romans	1987	Wanda Rich	2003
Ruth “Connie” Varney	1987	Kim Layden	2005
Kay Sergent	1989	Joan Gordon	2007
Rose Clements	1991	Joyce Kepke	2011
Anne Graves	1993		