



# The Voter

September 2021

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100+ Years



## September Topical Tuesday:

## Battle for Fair Redistricting in Ohio Will Be Topic of Discussion This Month

The Perrysburg League of Women Voters and Way Library will welcome Dr. Deborah Dalke, emeritus professor of psychology at Defiance College, for a discussion on redistricting Tuesday, September 14, 7 p.m. at Way Library.

This Topical Tuesday presentation will include discussion on the process of redistricting, problems with our current gerrymandered districts, the new rules for drawing district maps, and how citizens can be involved in the fight for fair maps.

Dr. Dalke, a member of the League of Women Voters of Bowling Green, has been an Election Protection volunteer since 2012, helping resolve problems people encounter when they vote.

This presentation will be in-person, but registration is required and seating is limited. Registration closes three hours before the beginning of the program. **You can register online at [waylibrary.info](http://waylibrary.info) or by calling 419-874-3135, extension 119.**

IT'S TIME FOR



END GERRYMANDERING NOW!

[fairdistrictsohio.org](http://fairdistrictsohio.org)

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### Please note:

While in-person meetings have resumed, Topical Tuesday events still require advance registration.

This can be done online at [way.library.info](http://way.library.info) or by calling 419-874-3135, ext. 119

### Interested in the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area?

Sue Hoffman  
Membership Chair

If you are interested in learning more about the Perrysburg League of Women Voters, our membership committee would be happy to send you additional information. We have several items with specifics of who we are and what we do. All you need to do is email: [rshuffyburg@gmail.com](mailto:rshuffyburg@gmail.com), and I will prepare and mail a packet to you. I hope to hear from you soon.



## League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

### **President:**

Jacki Stedman  
stedmanfamily@sbcglobal.net  
419-787-7092

### **Voter Editor:**

Roseanne Barker  
roseannebarker@  
sbcglobal.net  
419-214-8448

### **LWVPA**

**P.O. Box 712**

**Perrysburg, Ohio 43552**

### **LWVPA E-Mail**

lwvperrysburg@gmail.com

### **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**

<https://my.lwv.org/ohio/perrysburg-area>

## President's Letter

Dear League Members,

Welcome to the 2021-2022 League year! Thank you again to the membership for nominating and re-electing me for another term. In spite of the COVID 19 shut down, we were able to accomplish a lot in 2019 and 2020 (please take time to read the report from the June annual meeting to learn more). That said, I believe we will be called upon to do even more this year.

Top on our agenda is supporting the Fair Districting efforts managed by the League of Women Voters of Ohio. If you have not done so, please take some time today to visit the fair districts website at <https://www.fairdistrictsohio.org/>.

Fair districting is overwhelmingly supported by Ohioans. In 2015, 71% of voters supported a new bipartisan system to draw state legislative district lines and in 2018, 75% of Ohioans supported congressional redistricting reform. These issues, which resulted in constitutional amendments, passed in all 88 Ohio counties. Fair districting is not a partisan issue — all voters benefit from fair districts. Please take time to educate yourself, respond to any calls to action issued by the state and remain poised to do your part to make fair districts a reality this year.

Other major areas of interest that will rely on membership involvement this year include: voter participation and registration, natural resources and education. With the recent announcement that the Positively Perrysburg event is cancelled, we will need to rely on creativity to educate citizens and get members involved in our top issues. Please attend our Topical Tuesdays and reach out to me or other board members with ideas on how to invigorate our citizens. We cannot take our eye off of Democracy — remember “Democracy is not a spectator sport!”.

Best regards,

*Jacki Stedman*

President



**Please welcome new LWVPA Members  
Donna Bachmeyer, Barbara Gail Baumgartner,  
Deborah Born, Sharon Dela-Hamaide  
and Barbara Eikost!**





## Upcoming Meetings

For the most up-to-date information on League activities, click on ....

### [League Calendar](#)

**Tuesday, September 14** —  
7 p.m. *Fair Districting Ohio*,  
Dr. Deborah Dalke, professor  
emeritus at Defiance College

**Sunday, Oct. 3** — 2 p.m.  
*Candidates Forum*, Virtual  
Event

**Tuesday, October 19** —  
7 p.m. *School Safety*, Brooke  
Price, Assistant  
Superintendent for Perrysburg  
Schools

**Tuesday, November 9** —  
7 p.m. Dr. Dione Somerville,  
President of Owens  
Community College

**All our meetings will be held  
at Way Library unless  
otherwise noted.**

**Registration will be required**

**The Program Committee,  
headed by Nancy Kelley and  
Way Library's Programming  
Specialist Natalie Diehlman,  
are busy planning next season's  
Topical Tuesdays.**

**All programs will be  
announced on our web page  
and in *The Voter* as soon as the  
dates are secured.**

## Themes from the Toledo Area Ohio Fair Districting Commission Hearing

By Jacki Stedman

I attended the Toledo area hearing on Thursday, August 26, and thought I would provide some general information from the event. Approximately 150 attendees packed the McMaster room at the downtown Toledo Public Library. The meeting was called to order and Senator Vernon Sikes from Akron presided. Public testimony began after a few introductory remarks, including a brief history of redistricting in Ohio, and introduction of the panel. Locally, Senator Theresa Gavarone participated on the panel.

I counted 31 community members who provided oral testimony to the panel. Those testifying self-identified as Republicans and Democrats, educators, small business owners, former elected officials, former candidates for office, students, union leaders, and League members. The following communities were represented at the podium: Oregon, Liberty Center, Maumee, Bowling Green, Toledo Sylvania, Defiance, Bryan, Ottawa Hills, Columbus, Lakeside, Huron Township in Erie County and Providence Township.

Some consistent themes included:

### Frustration-

- Frustration that these events (10 hearing over four days) were quickly planned and held during the daytime which made it difficult for working folks to attend
- Frustration that the Governor (who is part of the 7-member commission) did not attend any hearings to date
- Frustration and confusion over how to submit a map as the website only recently added links to the software and tutorials

### Desire for fair representation

- Democracy is about voters choosing their politicians, but gerrymandering allows politicians to choose their voters
- Representatives who know they had a safe seat are not responsive to constituents. A number of folks noted that they never receive calls back when they contact state reps
- Constituents in the "snake on the lake" and the "duck" districts have very different needs

### Transparency

- Constituents want to see the maps-- "Show us the Maps" was a theme
- More importantly, those testifying noted they want to see the maps AND have ample time for public hearings to comment on them
- More notice and greater accessibility for future hearings.

The video of the Toledo hearing, and the other hearings from around the state, can be found at <https://www.redistricting.ohio.gov/>. The LWVOH and the Perrysburg league will continue to keep you updated on opportunities to attend hearings as they are announced.



## **Virtual Event – No In-Person Audience**

Sunday, October 3 at 2:00 p.m.

Live Streaming the Afternoon of the Forum  
Available On-Demand after the Forum

Details as they are Finalized at [LWVPA Website](#)

**Candidates for these Contested Races are Invited to Participate**  
Perrysburg City Council and Perrysburg School Board

## ***Recycle Used Clothing — All Used Clothing***

*Carol Hall  
Natural Resources Co-Chair*

My friend Mary is a professor at Indiana University. She is an expert on textiles and travels the world with students, observing local cultures creating beautiful rugs, blankets, etc. Sustainability is a huge component of their studies. Put simply, Mary knows a lot about cloth.

She tells me that we should recycle every piece of clothing, even socks with holes, ugly stained shirts, even underwear. Why? Because everything will get used. The designer clothes will be sold first (that's where the recyclers make easy money). The nice clothing will be in resale shops. Boatloads of clothes will be shipped to Africa. And everything else, EVERYTHING else will be turned into insulation, industrial rags, etc.

So, no old clothing in the garbage. P.S. She also says that in terms of our carbon footprint, we should purchase used clothing.