

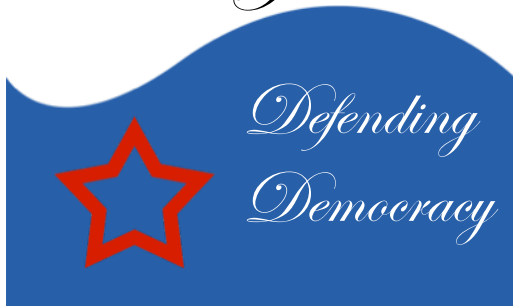


# The Voter

April/May 2023

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100+ Years



## In This Issue:

<b>Wood County's Booming Economy</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Board Letter</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Upcoming Meetings</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Ohio's Sunshine Laws</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LWV's Election Report</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Annual Meeting and Luncheon</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Local History and More Will Be Speaker's Topic at Luncheon</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Brews and Views</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Slate of Officers</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Proposed Budgets</b>	<b>6</b>

### April Topical Tuesday:

## Wood County's Booming Economy Is This Month's LWVPA Meeting

Wood County Economic Development Commission Executive Director Wade Gottschalk will speak on economic development in Wood County and how his office provides support in working with prospective companies at the April 25 meeting. This Topical Tuesday, sponsored by the League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area and Way Public Library, will take place at 7 p.m. at the library.

According to a February 27 Bowling Green Sentinel Tribune article, titled *Business is Booming in Wood County*, the county is experiencing another successful year of economic development.

The newspaper reported nearly \$1 billion in new private sector economic development investments announced in 2022, creating over 800 new jobs. This includes a \$270 million dollar expansion project for a research and development facility at First Solar in Perrysburg Township. It is expected to be the first of its scale in the United States and should help to solidify Ohio's position as the hub for American leadership in the development and production of advanced thin film photovoltaics (PV).

Also in Perrysburg Township, longtime township business IMCO Carbide Tool began a \$39 million expansion project that will result in 92 jobs, nearly doubling operations when complete.

Mr. Gottschalk has headed the Economic Development Commission since 2012. He holds a bachelor of arts degree in political science and government and a masters degree in public administration from Bowling Green State University.

Topical Tuesday events are free and open to the public.



Wade Gottschalk  
Executive Director of Wood  
County Economic  
Development Commission

Have you had a change of address recently — e-mail or snail mail? A new phone number? Please let the Membership Chairman know of any changes to your information.



## League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

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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**

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

**The deadline for  
Voter articles is the  
25th of each month.**

## Board Letter

Dear League Members:



### The Importance of Both Sides of the Story

In early February the League sat down in Council Chambers to hear Mayor Tom Mackin speak on the state of the city and the new projects happening around Perrysburg. It is always informative to hear from our local leaders, and we encourage everyone, especially our members, to engage in local politics.

One item of note that Mr. Mackin expressed was his concern about nameless provocateurs who express their displeasure with the administration through social media. As he noted, he chose to enter the ugly world of politics and accepted the scrutiny, but the staff did not. These constant, one-sided attacks, can be likened to the treatment that Harry and Meghan receive in the British media. There is intent to harm rather than educate. British media must do better.

Regardless of how we Americans view British Royals, there is a common theme about their story that has infiltrated the American way of life. Bad reporting, bad presentation and lack of empathy for the destruction that is caused by researching and reporting only one side of a story. Examples can be seen in every news outlet, entertainment outlet and social media outlet. American media must do better.

On March 17, the Bowling Green League of Women voters presented a panel discussion on *Public Tax Dollars Subsidizing Private Schools*. The event was billed as a presentation and panel discussion on the impact of the “Backpack Bill” on public schools. Panelists included all public school officials, but no officials from private schools or charter schools were invited.

It is often difficult to be a member of an organization when not all your ideals align with the positions of the group. As a former public school auditor, former charter school board member and parent of private school, charter school and homeschooling children, I frequently struggle with the League’s forums on education, and that is ok. I cannot expect my positions to always align with the group. It is our own personal responsibility to research every topic, from many resources in order to form our own opinions. No single source of information can tell the full story. Individually, we must do better.

While it is never comfortable to self-reflect, but in order to grow, sometimes we must acknowledge our own shortcomings. Individually, we cannot perpetually repeat a false narrative on any topic if we fail to compile our own research from varied sources.

*Sara Weisenburg*

Treasurer



## Upcoming Meetings

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

### [League Calendar](#)

**Tuesday, April 25** —  
7 p.m. *Economic Development in Wood County*, Wade Gottschalk, Ex. Dir., Wood County Economic Development Office.

**Tuesday, May 16** —  
11 p.m. *Annual Meeting*, Noon Luncheon and presentation by Richard Baranowski, Way Library Local History Librarian, Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Levis Commons

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



# Ohio Sunshine Laws

## *An Essential Element in a Democracy*

National Sunshine Laws Week, introduced in 2005, was celebrated a couple weeks ago -- March 12 – 18. Sunshine Laws are essential in a democracy.

Per [Ohio.gov](#), “Ohio’s Sunshine Laws give residents access to government meetings and records.” The site goes on to say, “Ohio’s Public Records Act and Open Meetings Act, also known as **Sunshine Laws**, create an open government and help residents observe and take part in government meetings and activities and access records.”

Since 1984, the LWVUS has had a [Citizens Rights](#) position (see page 52 of the document) that says in part, “The League further believes that governmental bodies must protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings, and making public records accessible.”

The Ohio Attorney General (OAG) issues an [Ohio Sunshine Laws Manual](#) where you can learn more about these laws (they pertain to all levels of state and local government), learn how to navigate the system, and become an advocate for Sunshine Laws. If you prefer an overview of the Sunshine Laws (rather than the 145-page manual), there is an online training course that is repeated several times throughout the year. It is free and available to the public at [OAG Sunshine Training](#)

*Debra Gorman*  
*Director Voter Services*



LWV’s Election Report  
see how Leagues across the country  
powered the vote in 2022.

[Overview](#)

[Full Report](#)

YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR  
**ANNUAL MEETING AND SPRING  
LUNCHEON**



*Tuesday, May 16 at Noon*

*Garden Hilton Inn  
Levis Commons Perrysburg*

*Members' Business Meeting at 11 a.m.*

*Luncheon Speaker: Richard Baranowski  
Way Library Reference and Local History Librarian*

*2023 High School Scholarship Winner Presentation*

*Cost: \$27 per person*

*RSVP by May 11*

*Mail your reservations and checks to :  
Nancy Kelley, 14650 Dexter Falls Road,  
Perrysburg, OH 43551*

*For more information, contact Nancy Kelley at  
419-866-6013 or njkway@gmail.com*

*Guests are welcome for lunch —  
please feel free to invite prospective members.*

*Treasurer Sara Weisenburger will be accepting  
dues for next year — \$65 per person or \$97 per household.*

## ***Local History and More Will Be Speaker's Topic at Luncheon***

The featured speaker at our May 16 Spring Luncheon will be Richard Baranowski, reference and local history librarian at Way Public Library.

Mr. Baranowski, a graduate of Wayne State School of Library Science, has published articles on a variety of subjects in history, library science and of popular interest. He also wrote *Perrysburg Village Voices*, a history of Perrysburg for the city's bicentennial in 2016 and *Now Hear This! Perrysburg Veterans in War and Peace* in 2018.

In celebration of Perrysburg Township's Bicentennial this year, he will speak on how the township came to be and frontier justice in early Perrysburg history.

A presentation of this year's League Scholarship will be made to Perrysburg High School Senior Ella Sibbersen at the luncheon.

The League's annual meeting will take place at 11 a.m. for members only. The luncheon will follow at noon for members and guests. Both meetings will be at the Garden Hilton Inn at Levis Commons.

***Back by Popular Demand!***

### **Brews and Views**

**Wednesday, April 26**

**5 to 7 p.m.**

***Te'kela Restaurant***

**25481 North Dixie Highway**

**Perrysburg**

***Join us for lively conversation,  
beverages and appetizers***

**Brews &  
Views**



## **Proposed 2023-2024 Slate of Officers**

The following League members have been nominated for positions on the 2023-24 board of directors. These positions will be voted on by the membership at the annual meeting on May 16.

***President*** — Debra Gorman

***Vice President Program*** — Nancy Kelley

***Corresponding Secretary/ Member Registrar*** — Shirley Johnson

***Director Voter Services*** — Lynn Fleure

***Director Natural Resources*** — Carol Hall

***Director Communications*** — Cindi Britt

***All Positions are  
two-year terms  
unless otherwise  
indicated.***

*Continued on Page 6*

## Proposed 2023-2024 Slate of Officers

*Continued from Page 5*

**Director at Large** — Jacki Stedman (one-year term)

**Director at Large** — Karen Roderick-Lingeman (one-year term)

Non-Board Positions

Nominating Committee (one-year term) — Barb Baumgartner, Sharon Dela-Hamaide, one board member to be appointed.

### **2023 Nominating Committee**

*Josette McCarthy, Judy Reitzel, Carol Shepard, Starr Wlodarski*

## Proposed Budgets for 2023-2024

League of Women Voters of Perrysburg  
General Fund Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

	2020 Budget	2021 Budget	2022 Budget	2023 Budget	2024 Budget
<b>Income</b>					
Dues	4,200	4,170	3,185	3,900	4,160
Finance Campaign Members	100	100	100	100	-
Finance Campaign Non-Members	100	100	100	100	-
In-Kind Donations	100	100	100	100	100
Stranahan Funds	700	500	500	300	300
Meeting Lunch Revenue*	1,800	1,300	1,300	1,400	2,400
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>6,270</b>	<b>5,285</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>6,960</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
National PMP	900	800	785	960	1,025
State PMP	1,200	950	975	1,200	1,275
National/State Convention	375	750	110	110	110
Memorials	100	100	100	500	500
Meetings, Coalitions, Special Events	350	350	350	350	350
Membership	500	500	500	500	500
Meeting Lunch Expense*	1,800	1,300	1,300	1,400	2,400
Executive Board Operating	200	200	200	200	200
Printing and Postage	200	200	400	900	800
Misc**	1,375	1,120	1,085	1,335	1,025
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>6,270</b>	<b>5,805</b>	<b>7,455</b>	<b>8,185</b>
<b>Income Over / (Under) Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(520)</b>	<b>(1,555)</b>	<b>(1,225)</b>

\* This item includes the Holiday Luncheon and the League Annual Luncheon in May

\*\* This line item is a planned transfer to cover the State/League dues and budget balancing



League of Women Voters of Perrysburg						
Education Fund Budget July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024						
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget	
<b>Income</b>						
Members	2,700	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,000	
Non-Members	1,400	1,300	1,800	2,400	850	
Memorials	100	100	100	100	100	
Fundraising / Scholarships	100	100	100	100	100	
Misc*	1,375	1,120	1,085	1,335	1,025	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>5,675</b>	<b>4,620</b>	<b>5,085</b>	<b>5,935</b>	<b>3,075</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>						
National PMP	900	800	785	960	1,025	
State PMP	350	320	300	375	400	
Finance Drive	100	100	100	100	100	
Program Support	100	100	800	2,025	755	
Scholarship	550	1,050	1,050	1,100	1,100	
Candidates Forum	400	400	1,900	1,900	700	
Voters Guide	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,925	2,055	
Govt Officials Pamphlet	100	100	100	100	100	
Website Support	600	450	965	600	600	
Perrysburg Rally	300	300	300	300	300	
Stranahan Award	400	400	400	500	500	
Administrative Expense	75	75	75	135	200	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,675</b>	<b>5,895</b>	<b>8,575</b>	<b>10,020</b>	<b>7,835</b>	
<b>Income Over / (Under) Expenses</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,275)</b>	<b>(3,490)</b>	<b>(4,085)</b>	<b>(4,760)</b>	
* This line item is a planned transfer to cover the State/League dues and budget balancing						