

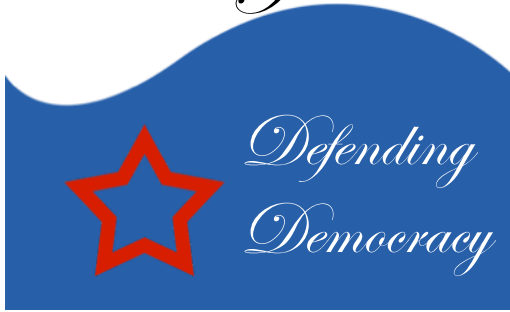


The Voter

March 2021

League of Women Voters of the Perrysburg Area

100 Years



March Topical Tuesday:

Blade Outdoors Editor Matt Markey Will Speak on *All Things Lake Erie*

All Things Lake Erie is the topic of Matt Markey’s Zoom Meeting presentation at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23. Toledo Blade Outdoors Editor Matt Markey is being brought to us by the Perrysburg League of Women Voters in conjunction with Way Library’s Topical Tuesday Program.

Lake Erie is the shallowest, the warmest, the most nutrient rich of the Great Lakes, and therefore home to the most fish by far, but also the most



Matt Markey

vulnerable to invasive species and environmental threats.

According to Mr. Markey, Lake Erie has a history made for the movies — key battles of the War of 1812, a significant role in the Underground Railroad, major rum-running route during Prohibition, and after being ridiculed for its pollutants when the Cuyahoga River caught fire, Erie is now the envy of freshwater fisheries in North America.

Everybody knows Marblehead’s iconic station, but Lake Erie is home to 20 lighthouses, some dating back to the 1700’s — and those navigational aides were needed since there have been nearly 2,000 shipwrecks and accidents on the lake.

Mr. Markey says that as far as economic impact, tourism along the lake alone is worth about \$15 billion a year, so when you add in shipping, recreational boating, and fishing the figure likely triples. We share the lake with three other states and Canada, and all benefit greatly from its wealth of water.

Mr. Markey is a native of Fostoria and earned his business/journalism degree from Bowling Green State University. He has spent 27 years at *The Blade*, the last 10 as Outdoors Editor.

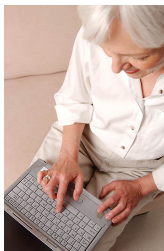
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Virtual Statehouse Day 2021

Wednesday, March 3

Go to lwvohio.com to register today



Please note: Register early for Topical Tuesdays
Did you know, Way Library closes the registration 12 hours before an event in order to ensure registrants are sent the ZOOM link in a timely manner? Don’t miss reserving your spot!



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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>

Board Letter

Dear League Members,

We have arrived at March, a time when we think of spring, new growth and new beginnings. The League seems to be in the same cycle as Mother Nature; we are always thinking of ways to grow our membership, ways to improve elections, ways to work on our positions and inform the public of these actions and thoughts, and ways to improve communication and transparency.

One way to do this is through information we generate for our community. Yearly we publish a directory of public officials, a one page front and back list of important election information, elected officials, as well as web sites and email addresses. This sheet also includes key Ohio toll-free information lines and county, city, state and national information. It is a perfect sheet to keep nearby. If you would like one sent to you, please call me at 419-350-3204. Please note we are upgrading our last year's sheet for our online site and inserting changes into the hard copy from last year. COVID made it difficult to distribute and since the library was closed, fewer people had access.

Secondly, the LWV of Ohio presents so many impressive educational programs. Debra Gorman covered some of those last month, and I am continuing this month. First, there is *Lunching with the League*, which occurs every second and fourth Monday. It "features a transformational leader in government, education, healthcare, criminal justice and more." They will focus on their visions and goals for 2021 and how their strategies are taking shape. These can be found on www.lwvoinfo@lwvohio.org. Another way the League contacts us is through *Take Action Now* emails. These ask us to call state legislators on certain issues. In February we were asked to contact legislators and tell them "that Ohioans must not be blocked from exercising their rights and having their voices heard, or be forced to put their health at risk by going to Columbus in person." As you can see, league members are involved.

Thirdly, the League is reaching out to younger people through their *Youth in Action* meetings. "This is a recent addition to the LWVO and aimed at providing youth (ages 13-25) an empowering space to learn and participate in dialogue centered on becoming civically engaged. YIA is a youth-led group that will use a social-justice oriented framework for civic engagement and promote growth through personal exploration and socially responsible leadership." They plan on meeting twice a month. You can find an information sheet (YIA Interest Form) online or reach out to intern Kaiyah Taylor at taylor.3470@osu.edu.

As you can see, the League is a very busy, concerned group of people. We welcome your participation, your areas of expertise and your thoughts. You can be as active as you wish, but I know one thing for sure; you will always be learning. Should you have any questions, please contact the League at any of the websites noted in *The Voter* or my number is also in this letter. Thanks for reading!

Sue Hoffman
Membership Co-Chair

**Have you moved ... or changed your email address
or phone number?**

Please let the League know your new information.





Upcoming Meetings

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

[League Calendar](#)

Wednesday, March 10 —
6:30 p.m. *Consensus Meeting On Arming School Personnel*, Zoom Meeting to answer questions from the LWVOhio Study Committee. **Members Only.**

Tuesday, March 23 —
7 p.m. *All Things Lake Erie*, Matt Markey, Outdoors Editor for the *Toledo Blade*



Tuesday, April 20 —
7 p.m. *COVID-19 Vaccines*, Ben Robison, Wood County Health Commissioner and a Mercy Hospital of Perrysburg nurse.

Tuesday, June 8 —
1 p.m. *Annual Meeting*,

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

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

Toledo Outdoors Editor To Speak at Topical Tuesday

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He also worked for newspapers in Orlando, Bowling Green and Fostoria prior to that and worked in the movie business in California, Montana, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico for about six years before coming to *The Blade*. Mr. Markey spent four months in Montana working on the movie *A River Runs Through It*.

The son of two U.S. Army World War II veterans, Mr. Markey's mother, Helen L. Mathews Markey, is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

He and his wife Linda are residents of rural Wood County and have five children.

State of Ohio Removes 97,795 Voter Registrations

*By Debra Gorman
Voter Services*

In January 2021, at the direction of the Ohio Secretary of State (SOS), Boards of Elections throughout Ohio removed a total of 97,795 voter registrations. In Wood County, 515 voter registrations were removed.

According to the Ohio SOS's office, "The process began in August 2020 when 115,816 registrations were identified as abandoned. Those identified as abandoned were placed on the list because they had no voter activity whatsoever for at least six years. In addition to previous communications, all abandoned registrations were notified of their placement on the list and the many ways to remain an active registered voter, including:

- *Voting in the November 3, 2020 election;*
- Responding to the 2016 confirmation notices the county board of elections;
- Requesting an absentee ballot application;
- Updating or confirming their address online, by mail, or in-person;
- Updating their registration online, by mail, or in-person;
- BMV transaction.

The SOS's explanation continues, "After a thorough review of the submitted data [i.e., the original 115,816], 97,795 registrations have been removed from county board of elections voter registration databases. That means between August 21 and December 7, nearly 18,000 registrants were no longer at risk of being cancelled under this process. More than 10,000 of these registrations chose to vote in the 2020 General Election."

In Wood County, 3,550 voters were notified that their registrations were on the "remove" list and the ways they could remain an active registered voter. Over 3,000 voters took steps to remain an active voter. Voter registrations are reviewed yearly with a look-back to include two federal elections.

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State of Ohio Removes 97,795 Voter Registrations

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Steps to Ensure Your Voter Registration is Current

- [Verify Your Registration](#)
- If your registration has been removed, [Register To Vote](#)
- [Update Your Address](#)
- [Update Your Change-of-Name](#) (Pay special attention to Box 13. In Wood County, mail to: WCBOE, 1 Courthouse Square, Bowling Green, OH 43402. This change cannot be done online.)
- [Moved Out of Ohio](#)

[Read the SOS's description of the purge.](#)

Consensus Meeting on Arming School Personnel March 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Please plan on joining us on Wednesday, March 10 at 6:30 p.m. via zoom for a consensus meeting on Arming School Personnel. We will spend approximately 90 minutes reviewing questions that the League of Women Voters of Ohio Study Committee on Arming School Personnel developed. The goal of this members-only activity is to determine if consensus can be reached on topics regarding Arming School Personnel: Decision-Making; Cost and Liability; The Armed Personnel, Checks and Training; Storage; Perceptions of Safety in Schools. We then summarize our findings and return them to the state. This is a great way for our voices to be considered as the state develops a formal Position on this topic. The process will be similar to the meeting we had on Health Equity in the Fall of 2020. Information on the study can be found in the links below.

Look for a zoom invite a few days before the meeting. If you have questions, or cannot attend, but would like to provide feedback, please reach out to Jacki Stedman at stedmanfamily@sbcglobal.net or 419-787-7092.

Arming School Personnel Study:

- [Letter of Introduction to the Study](#)
- [Introduction to the Consensus Process](#)
- [Consensus Questions and Research: the Guide](#)
- [Summary of Research on the School Environment](#)
- [Vocabulary](#)
- [Consensus Questions without the research](#)
- [PowerPoint for Meetings](#)
- [Bibliography](#)
- [Link to Online Response Form](#)

How You Can Help Save Our Planet

Six things we can do to help save our planet.

1. Eat more plant-based
2. Skip the car when you can.
3. Read climate and environment articles and books
4. Compost
5. Recycle
6. No single-use plastics

Together we make a difference.

*By Carol Hall
Natural Resources Committee*

