

Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

Serving the Communities of
Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park, Grosse Pointe Shores,
Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods



Upcoming Events

March is Women's History Month

Tuesday, March 10

MI Presidential Primary

Wednesday, March 18, 7 p.m.

LWVGP Board Meeting in the GP Woods Library, first floor story room. MEMBERS WELCOME

Thursday, March 19

Program cancelled

Wednesday, April 29, 7 p.m.

LWVGP DEI Speaker - see details at right

Wednesday, May 20, 7:30 p.m.

Votes for Women: Suffrage in Michigan (to mark the Centennial of the Women's Vote) at GP South Auditorium. In partnership with the GP Historical Society. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday, May 27 dinner, time TBD

Annual meeting at City Kitchen
Details to come.

Membership News

Thank you to our members - 112 strong!

Welcome to new members Barbara Chiapella, Elizabeth Klepp, Kenn Gafa, Kathy Gardner, and Laura McEnergy.

We're thrilled to have so many new members looking to make democracy work, and know our long-time members will welcome them and get them involved with our good work.

President's Message

The LWV has a national convention every two years, and this year's convention is in Washington DC. This year, the program will be concentrating on the 100th anniversary of LWVUS. Representing our Grosse Pointe League as voting delegates are Sue Acton and Val Kindle.

The national convention is a great opportunity to see how the national organization works, and all members of the league are welcome to attend. If any of you wish to do so, you are welcome to do so at your own expense. Here is a link to the Registration page on the National website. <https://www.lwv.org/registration2020convention>

Spring is coming upon us quickly, and the Voter Services team has already scheduled the High School Voter Registration times. This is an exceptionally fun experience. I encourage any and all of you to participate.

Be sure to Vote on Tuesday, March 10.

Just a final reminder that the Michigan Secretary of State is still looking for more Applications for the Citizens Redistricting Commission. Check this link on the SOS website. [Click here.](#)

Tom

C. Thompson Wells, Jr. President
League of Women Voters, Grosse Pointe

Voter Services

Vote411

League Presidents and Vote411 administrators from Wayne County will gather on March 16. This group meets every two years to plan how best to share the Vote411 responsibilities of the Wayne County offices. Sue Acton will represent our Grosse Pointe League at this meeting.

Student Voter Registration

We have scheduled the following voter registration sessions:

*Wednesday, April 1, Harper Woods High School
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

*pending confirmation

Tuesday, April 21, Grosse Pointe North High School
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 22, Grosse Pointe South High School
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

We need volunteers to help with these registration sessions. Please let Judy Florian or Sue Acton know if you are available.

The annual Directory was distributed via email, and hard copies were available at the January meeting. If you have not received a hard copy and would like one, please contact Sarah (sarah.coats@hotmail.com) or Laurie (lcoplin@sprynet.com) and we will deliver one.

Know Your Voting Rights

Thanks to LWVGP Board members who helped the ACLU of Michigan distribute 375 copies of this booklet in February. They went to all six local city halls and four libraries so voters could be informed about the changes Michigan voted for in 2018. If you missed it, [click here](#) for the PDF version.

Judy Florian - VP, Voter Services

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update

Longtime member passes

We are very sorry to learn of the passing of long time member Don Dungan.

Don, a long time educator, edited and arranged the publishing of **Your Government Officials** for the Grosse Pointe League for many years.

We are very grateful for those years of service to the League and offer our sympathy to his family and many friends.

Speaker on April 29

We are hosting a membership meeting on the topic of diversity, equity and inclusion, on Wednesday, April 29, 2020, 7 - 8:30 p.m., at the Wayne County Community College District, on Vernier, in Harper Woods.

Our guest speaker is Daniel A. Baxter, Director of External Affairs for Wayne County. He is a former City of Detroit Elections director and was the elections director for Montgomery, Alabama. He oversees the Wayne United initiative, and will speak about this program's effort toward building a more inclusive community with other organizations, offer suggestions for how our leagues can become more diverse and inclusive, and discuss how Wayne United can be of mutual benefit to our league. We are inviting members of other leagues in Wayne County and Macomb County to attend this meeting.

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government; works to increase understanding of major public policy issues; and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League is strictly nonpartisan, neither endorsing candidates nor supporting political parties.

The LWVGP, in both its values and its practices, reaffirms its commitment to diversity.

Membership is open to men and women of all ages.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy

The League of Women Voters, in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism. LWV recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making, and subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds.

Inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs, and therefore, LWV will in both principles and practices promote the inclusion in participation in any activity of LWV all persons whatever their gender,

Wayne County serves one of the most diverse communities in the entire nation. It is home to African American, Hispanic, Asian and Arab populations, as well as a strong German, Polish, and Irish presence. Wayne County also has a large concentration of immigrants and refugees.

Wayne County Executive Warren Evans notes that, "America is great only when all feel welcome, when all feel valued and when all feel like they have a role to play in the success of the American experiment."

Please save this date on your calendar, and I hope to see you on April 29, 2020.

Please complete this DEI Survey

We are asking three questions regarding our membership, so we can better understand our diversity and better understand our outreach efforts for a diverse membership and a clear path to our efforts at inclusion.

Your responses will be anonymous and the raw data will be uploaded onto an Excel Spreadsheet for our board of directors use. [Click here](#) for the survey.

Wilhelmina Giblin - DEI Director

race, socio-economic status, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

League Links

Want to contact one of your government officials?

[Click here!](#)

Want to check LWVGP's calendar for the latest updates?

[Click here!](#)

[LWV Grosse Pointe](#)

[LWV Michigan](#)

[LWV United States](#)



Sashes and Buttons - a Fun(d)raiser

During this 100th Anniversary Year celebrating the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, we honor our suffragette sisters who marched endlessly (and were sometimes jailed) in order to earn the basic right to vote for women.

This year, let's honor them. First - VOTE! Second - VOTE! Third - VOTE!

Yes, you can do even more to honor the work of our sisters. Continue their work. Write letters, call congress people, support the ERA and maybe march for rights we still need. When you do, you might want to dress the part.

Sue Acton has made sashes to honor the movement. Buy one at our next meeting or order one that you can pick up. A sash including one "LWV 100" button is \$20. Additional buttons are \$5 each. All profits go to LWVGP. Supplies are limited. Email Sue Acton with your order today!

Wear your sash proudly with you white clothes at our May meeting, or in a march, or in a parade. Show your support for women who fought for our rights long ago and continue the fight today.



["Like" the LWVGP on Facebook! And check out our activities here!](#)

[Join the League! Print out our membership form to mail in](#)

[New Member Handbook](#)

[The 2019 Membership Directory](#)



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