



## *The Voter Newsletter* October 2021

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

## Calendar

**Oct. 18:** *Secure and Fair Elections* Virtual Program [Register here](#)

**Oct. 19:** LWVGP Board Meeting

**Oct. 27:** *Mapping Michigan's Future* Virtual Program [Register here](#)

**NOTE:** You must register for each event separately. You will be sent the Zoom link the morning of the event.

## President's Message: Get Involved, Get Educated

Voting. When you are in the League of Women Voters and it's October, it's all about voting. With ONE month to go before Election Day on November 2, let's talk about what the League has done and what we WILL do to promote the vote.

### **Voter Services Has Been Super Active**

Our Voter Services committee put on five, yes, five forums for each contested election in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. Those forums, plus the two forums we did in June for contested primary elections, are posted on our [LWVGP YouTube Channel](#).

They also solicited and obtained local candidate responses for the [Vote411.org](#) Voter Guide.



They have prepared a program on ***Secure and Free Elections*** on October 18 – see details below. Thank you Mary Garlough and Mary Zahler.

### **So all the groundwork is ready for YOU!**

How can you help us educate voters, encourage voting, and run fair elections? Here are a few ideas for this month.

1. **Watch YOUR city's Candidate Forum(s)** and tell your neighbors and friends about them. Quality questions were asked of quality candidates and the public agrees – one recording has over 700 views!
2. **If you agree that Vote411** is one of the BEST ways to compare candidates and figure out who to vote for, tell your neighbors about it with a Yard Sign. Only \$10 and all proceeds go to LWVGP.
3. **Register for the October 18 presentation, via Zoom, *Secure and Free Elections***. This presentation is open to members AND the public. Register AND invite a friend. It's important because our mission this year is to share positive news (and the truth) about trusting in our election process.
4. **Make sure YOU and your friends are registered to vote**. Students? Someone who recently moved? It's easy register online at Michigan.gov/sos by October 18. After the 18th, registration can still be done at your local clerk's office.
5. **Is this the year you help with our elections?** Call your City Clerk – or even a different city's City Clerk. They need help at the polls AND counting absentee ballots. Bonus: you get paid to do it. If you choose to do this, let me know. I'd like to publicly thank you in next month's message.
6. **VOTE!** Local elections matter! Absentee ballots are available NOW. Fill it out, sign it, drop it in the drop box. Or go in person on November 2. Or mail it in – but we recommend doing that VERY early – maybe by mid-October?

**Our Kickoff program, on October 27, is *Mapping Michigan's Future***; this will be presented via Zoom. Invite your friends to this one. An expert in population changes will explain how those shifts affect House seats in Michigan and one of the MICRC commissioners will explain how they use that census data to propose district maps. Even better, this kickoff is ONE DAY before the last MICRC Round 2 Hearing at the TCF Center. You'll be ready to share an informed opinion with the MICRC! Thank you Joan Richardson.

**The Observer Corps is ready for YOU!** Lauri Kingsbury and Vicki Granger invite you to be involved in local meetings, bring the sunshine, and report on the School Boards, City Councils, Library Boards, Water Board and other local meetings. This committee has worked hard to launch this effort. Thank you to all involved in the "start-up" phase.

**And the DEI Book Club** will launch next week in partnership with the Grosse Pointe Public Library. The book is Mia Birdsong's *How We Show up: Reclaiming Family, Friendship and Community*. Details on signing up for this monthly discussion are below. [Sign up here](#)

Looking forward to seeing you in person, on Zoom, at the polls. Make it an active month!

Sue Acton, President  
League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe  
[shacton@gmail.com](mailto:shacton@gmail.com)  
313 434-5768

## Observer Corps

The LWV has Observer Corps (OC) operating all over the United States, and here in Michigan, many local Leagues also have robust Observer Corps units.

In recent years, our LWVGP OC has not been as active, as members left the community for warmer climates and well-earned retirements.

This past summer, LWVGP revived the OC with several meetings to discuss recruitment and training materials.

***We ask our membership, particularly our newer members, to consider joining the Observer Corps.***


This will involve:

- a short training session the second week of November.
- committing to attend meetings of the government body of your choice: city council, school board, etc. The meetings vary in length, and usually meet twice a month.
- reporting on what happened at the meeting.

The OC Committee plans to meet with observers at least every quarter, to share observations and see if there are issues LWVGP should take on for a study, action, letters to the editor, etc.

The OC is on our LWVGP website  
<http://lwgrossepointe.org/advocacy/observer-corps/>.

If interested, contact [Lauri Kingsbury](#).



**Observer Corps**

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan organization. We do not support or oppose any candidate or political party. We do believe that democracy depends on the informed and active participation of its citizens.

**Role of an Observer**

Observers represent the public at local government meetings, making a visible statement that the community is paying attention.

The observer's role is to be an impartial, silent witness to the processes of local governments.

Local governments make decisions that directly affect our daily lives.

- WHO is making these decisions?
- WHAT topics do our local city councils, school boards, library boards, and county commissions discuss?
- HOW do our local governments make decisions?

Our democracy depends on open meetings.  
Let the sunshine in on our local governments.  
Transparency and accountability strengthen our democracy.

## Membership

LWVGP operates on a July 1-June 30 fiscal year. If you are unsure of your dues status, contact Membership Directors **Marge Freundl** or **Diana Domin**. Please be sure your dues are paid for the 2021-2022 fiscal year (July 1 - June 30). We are updating our membership directory, and want to be sure to include YOU.

Dues are payable online or via snail mail. **[Membership info on the website.](#)**

## Board - through June 30, 2022

### **Executive Board** Elected

- President: Sue Acton *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Vice President: Program Joan Richardson *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Vice President: Voter Services Mary Zahler *term to expire June 30, 2022*
- Secretary: Judy Masserang *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Treasurer: Carol Lufburrow *term to expire June 30, 2022*

### **On-Board Directors** Elected

- Director (Voter Services) Mary Garlough *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Director (Membership) Diana Domin *term to expire June 30, 2022*
- Director (Membership) Marge Freundl *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Director (Program) Carol Todd *term to expire June 30, 2022*

### **On-Board Directors** Appointed by the President for one-year terms

- Sandy Barrett - Assistant Treasurer
- Wilhelmina Giblin - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Vicki Granger - Communications, Voter Co-Editor, Observer Corps Co-Chair
- Lauri Kingsbury - Nominating Committee Chair, Observer Corps Co-Chair

### **Off-Board Directors** Appointed by the President for one-year terms

- Judy Florian - Publicity, Voter Co-Editor
- Connie Frey - Education
- Kathy Gardner - Webmaster
- Ann Nicholson - Historian
- Ed Trowbridge - Phone

**Nominating Committee** Lauri Kingsbury (chair), Mary Garlough, Joan Morris

## LWVGP Mission

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 **ages 16 and older.**

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy**  
**Non-Partisan Policy**

**League of Women Voters, Grosse Pointe**  
**32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236**

**Email:** [lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com)

**Website:** [lwvgrossepointe.org](http://lwvgrossepointe.org)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/LWVGP/>

**Twitter:** [@LWVofGP](https://twitter.com/LWVofGP)

**Blog:** <https://leagueofwomenvotersgrossepointe.blogspot.com/>

**LWVGP on YouTube**  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCloWa1Hw9PPhDvUY\\_2SB30w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCloWa1Hw9PPhDvUY_2SB30w)

League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe | 32 Lake Shore Drive, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

[Unsubscribe {recipient's email}](#).

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com](mailto:lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!