



The Voter Newsletter
October 2022

*Serving the communities of
Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park,
Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods
Since 1950*

Calendar

September

Monday, Sept. 26 Assist with GP Farms Absentee Ballot Mailing, 10-11 a.m.
Monday, Sept. 26 DEI Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 27 School Board Candidate Forum at Brownell, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 28 Statewide Observer Corps (Zoom) 3 p.m.
Thursday, Sept. 29 Spirit of Democracy Rally, downtown Detroit, 5:30 p.m.

October

Wednesday, Oct. 5 LWVMI webinar about Board of Canvassers, 11 a.m.
Monday, Oct. 10 Deadline for completing GOTV (GetOutTheVote) postcards
Tuesday, Oct. 18 Board Meeting at Ewald Library, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 28 , "A Primer on Polling" Virtual program 7 p.m.

Looking Ahead

November 3 at GP Unitarian Church - program on ballot proposals
November 8 Election Day
December 14 LWVGP Holiday Gathering

** visit the [Membership Events](#) only page on the website, under About Us

President's Message

Power. How we get it and how we use it CAN change the world. This month, before an election, the *LWV is at its best* in using its power to educate, expand voting access, and influence others. You are invited to do the same. Why not bring a friend into our circle of power too.

Knowledge is Power

- **School Board Candidate Forum.** The LWV is known for conducting nonpartisan, fair and open forums that help the community choose the best candidates. We have involved 15 of our members in volunteering for this

one. Attend in person, stream it live, or find it on LWVGP's YouTube channel later.

- **Speakers Bureau. NEW!** We have trained eight members who can now offer three powerful presentations (see detail below). Invite your neighbors to attend the events already planned (see the calendar) or, even better, invite us to speak to any community group of 10 or more in person or virtually. Civic groups, veterans groups, church groups. Personal influence matters and we are prepared.
- **Vote411.org. Plan ahead!** There are 23 races and 3 proposals on my ballot. What's on yours? LWVGP obtained the responses to three questions from all ten candidates plus five of them uploaded introductory videos. Well worth your time. LWVMI managed the huge job of all the statewide races.
- **The Voter Guide.** LWVMI puts out a newspaper version of a Voter Guide every time there are statewide elections. See article in Voter Services Report.
- **Supreme Court Candidate Forum.** LWVMI hosted five candidates for two seats and the answers were lively. Judges matter more than ever. Please watch at [this link](#) and invite others to join you.
- **LWVMI Webinar on the Board of Canvassers** I'll admit it – I didn't even know what canvassers did until two years ago. Turns out they can influence the election process. Find out how they use their power by watching this panel discussion. Find out how the League combats abuses in this arena.
- **A Primer on Polling.** SAVE the date. Details below. You will not want to miss this important message. Learn from the best.

We use our power to expand voting access.

- **Grosse Pointe Farms Absentee Ballot mailing** When you support free and fair elections, you help City Clerks do their job so voters get their ballots with time to spare.
- **Election Inspectors (aka Poll Workers)** Almost 10% of our members work the polls on Election Day. Why not join them? Call your local or the Detroit city clerk to work at a precinct. Better staffing means smoother elections. Also, you get training, you learn how elections work from the inside, and you get paid to do it!
- **Observers** If you want to provide a valuable service as the non-partisan voter at the table when ballots are re-checked and re-counted following an election, volunteer to observe the canvassing process – more details next month.

Influence is powerful, too.

The LWV has a strict non-partisan policy which means we do not endorse candidates. But we can and do take positions on issues. You find the issues our local league has endorsed on our webpage. LWVMI has taken positions on all three ballot proposals. We follow their lead and as a League are in favor of all three. We encourage you to VOTE for them and to use your influence to assure passage. They all make sense for Michigan.


If you want to be inspired by what we can do together, [click this link](#) from the Georgia State University Chorus and wear the crown proudly.

Best,


Sue Acton, President, LWVGP. shacton@gmail.com 313 434-5768

Candidate Forum
Grosse Pointe School Board
September 27, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Brownell Middle School Auditorium
Open to the Public
Forum will also be live streamed through the GPPSS website

Invited Candidates



- William K. Broman
- Terry Collins
- Sean P. Cotton
- Clint Derringer
- JeDonna Dinges
- Joseph Herd
- Ginny L. Jeup
- Timothy Klepp
- Chris Lee
- Valarie St. John



The General Election
Tuesday, November 8, 2022
is coming soon! Are **YOU**
informed and ready to vote?

Questions will not be accepted at the forum, but may be submitted
for consideration ahead of time. Submit questions **no later than**
noon on Monday, September 26 at lwvgrossepointe.org. You can
view the recorded forum after September 28.

Voter Services: Gearing Up for Schools Candidate Forum

All ten candidates for the GP School Board have accepted the invitation to appear at the LIVE candidate forum next Tuesday. All LWVGP members are encouraged to attend. If you can't attend in person, the forum will be live streamed through the GPPSS channel. You can access at this link:

<https://livestream.com/accounts/3685210>

Roles:

Moderator: Sue Acton

Reader: Lauri Read

Greeters: Sarah Coats, Holly Cory, Laura VerBeek

Question Sorters: Connie Frey, Judy Florian

Volunteers: Judy Florian, Marge Freundl, Lauri Kingsbury, Ann Nicholson, Wendy Saigh, Sue Stanley, Deborah Voorhees

LWVMI Nonpartisan Voter Guide

LWVMI will once again release a 40-page nonpartisan, printed voter guide for the November 8 General Election. This guide includes information on candidates for Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, US Congress, State Board of Education, Michigan State University Board of Trustees, University of Michigan Board of Regents, Wayne State University Board of Governors, Michigan Supreme Court Justices, Michigan Appeals Court Justices and information on the three statewide ballot proposals:

- Michigan Proposal 22-1: Transparency and Term Limits
- Michigan Proposal 22-2: Promote the Vote 2022
- Michigan Proposal 22-3: Reproductive Freedom for All

The guide also contains great information on voter registration, absentee ballots, voting rights, tracking your ballot, new redistricting map and more. Our League will distribute 4500 copies around the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. We are looking for volunteers to help distribute this guide. Please contact Lauri Read at 313-717-8777 or lauri.read@gmail.com

Vote 411

Our Vote 411 coordinator Sarah Coats has been busy inputting information into the Vote 411 program, including videos from the candidates if they so choose! Thank you, Sarah!

Vote411 for LWVMI is now live. You can go to Vote411.org, input your mailing address, and view everything that will be on your ballot for the November election. We urge members to tell their family and friends about Vote411. It's a great tool, with comparison information on the candidates as well as the ballot proposals.

Spirit of Democracy Rally

The "Spirit of Democracy" rally in downtown Detroit (at the Spirit of Detroit Plaza) is Sept. 29, 5:30-7:30 p.m. LWV Detroit will be registering voters and sharing League information. In addition to some notable speakers, there will be music and free ice cream, so bring the kids! The goal of the event is to get more people involved in the election process as poll workers and election day observers or challengers. Here is the link for the event next week. <https://www.mobilize.us/mobilize/event/505535/>

GOTV Postcard Project

LWVMI is coordinating a Get Out the Vote (GOTV) project geared to newly registered first time voters. LWVGP will participate by sending 1,000 cards to this population in the Grosse Pointes and Harper Woods. We need volunteers to help write postcards. The goal is to send them out the first 2 weeks in October. Lynne Pierce is coordinating this project. If you want to help, contact Lynne at lynnepierce@att.net or 313-720-3606.

Clerk Engagement

Volunteers will be assisting the GP Farms City Clerk with absentee ballot preparation on Monday, September 26, from 10-11 a.m. Contact Derrick Kozicki, at dkozicki@grossepointefarms.org or 313-885-6600 if you are available to assist.

Lauri Read, VP Voter Service, 313-717-8777 lauri.read@gmail.com
Mary Garlough, Director Voter Service, 313-5304698 marygarlough@gmail.com



Program

Our first program of the year — the picnic at Neff Park on Aug. 31 — was a huge success! About 40 members and others attended, had fun, and made important connections for our work during the remainder of the year. There seemed to be wide agreement that this should become an annual event.

Mark your calendars for our next program on Wednesday, Oct. 26. It will be a virtual event on understanding polling, featuring Gary Langer of Langer Research Associates in New York City (who does the ABC News/Washington Post poll, among many other national projects) and Tim Kiska, a professor of journalism at UM-Dearborn and a longtime local pollster.

Joan Richardson, LWVGP VP Program, will moderate this conversation, but will invite questions from the public in advance and possibly during the event.

Membership

We are growing! We welcome four new members in September: Lucy Hale (GP Woods), Janet Burke (GP Park), Mary Smale (GP Farms), and Rosalia Stefanatos (GPF)

Members who have NOT YET RENEWED were emailed on September 18. Those who do not renew will be placed on inactive status at the end of September. Inactive means we no longer email you or send you any League information.

Over half of the LWVGP membership has renewed for 2022-2023. Dues cover the fiscal year July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023. [Click here to renew!](#)

The Membership Committee is looking for additional members to work creatively on ways to expand our outreach and grow our membership. Contact Marge Freundl mmfreundl@comcast.net

– Marge Freundl and Catherine Dumke, LWVGP Directors Membership

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

The DEI Committee will be meeting in person for the next few months at the home of DEI Chair Cathy McAdam. The group would like to include health equity issues, as there are health disparities in Wayne County across all minority populations..

Thoughts to Action Book Club is discussing “Disability Visibility.” This group meets on the 4th Thursday of the month. The Thought to Action group is coordinated by the GP Library and GP Librarian Annie Spence, who is one of our newest members.

Observer Corps

Our robust LWVGP Observer Corps (OC) continues to provide detailed reports on public meetings in our community.

GP Farms Observer Joan Hall noted that there are concerns regarding the GP War Memorial construction, relating to the bird safe window glass. A substituted film, not to specifications, degrades over a ten-year span into environmentally harmful soil and water contaminants. Our own Judy Florian, who is also an active member of the GP Audubon Society, is following up, along with fellow GP Farms resident Connie Frey.

GP Schools Observer Wendy Saigh noted some public comments on a variety of topics, including the LGBTQ books in elementary schools.

Members of the Observer Corps also submitted potential questions for the upcoming candidate forum.

Lauri Kingsbury has shared the various LWVGP training materials with David Allen, the LWVMI.org Director for Observer Corps.

Quick Notes

Finance Our LWVGP Treasurer Carol Lufburrow continues to provide excellent monthly financial reports. LWVGP does have a Vanguard Index Fund worth just under \$23,000.

New Historian! Welcome to our new LWVGP Historian, Annie Spence! Annie is working closely with Ann Nicholson, outgoing Historian during the transition.

Contact LWVGP! To reach anyone on the board, with a question, a suggestion, to volunteer, feel free to use the lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com email address -

your email will be forwarded to the correct person.

Board - through June 30, 2023

Executive Board Elected

- President: Sue Acton *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- President Elect: : Lynne Pierce *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Vice President: Program Joan Richardson *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Vice President: Voter Services Lauri Read *term to expire June 30, 2024*
- 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) Catherine Dumke *term to expire June 30, 2024*
- Director (Membership) Marge Freundl *term to expire June 30, 2023*
- Director (Program) Dawn Drozd *term to expire June 30, 2024*

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

- Sue Stanley - Assistant Treasurer
- Cathy McAdam - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair
- Vicki Granger - Communications, Voter Co-Editor, Observer Corps Co-Chair
- Lauri Kingsbury - Observer Corps Co-Chair

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

- Judy Florian- Publicity, Voter Co-Editor
- Connie Frey - Finance Committee
- Kathy Gardner - Webmaster
- Annie Spence - Historian

Nominating Committee Judy Gafa (chair), Laura Larson, Marge Freundl

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

Website: lwvgrossepointe.org

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

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

LWVGP on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCloWa1Hw9PPhDvUY_2SB30w

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