

The Voter Newsletter November 2025

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

Calendar

November 18: LWVGP Board Meeting, GP Memorial Church, 7 p.m.

November 19: Know What You Sign Program, GP Library, Ewald Branch, 7 p.m.

December 9: Holiday Party, Melissa Levasseur host, 6:30 pm. Details to follow.

January 20: LWVGP Board Meeting, GP Memorial Church, 7 p.m.

President's Message

Editor's Note: *Lynne is substituting her message this month with a guest message from her counterpart at the Northwest Wayne County League, Carrie Moon-Dupree. Here is Carrie's President's Perspective.*

Resilience is a great characteristic to possess. It enables you to keep going when you get knocked down. It lets you recover from difficult conditions and hardships. In other words, resilience is good. At a time when we are all feeling like we are playing Whac-a-Mole with the chaos that the current administration is causing, resilience is needed more than ever. I must admit that my resilience meter is showing a deficit. How about yours? Are you feeling exhausted and overwhelmed? That's to be expected. Are you wondering how we can get our mojo grooving again? Here are some suggestions:

- **Don't doom scroll social media.** It will drive you crazy. Do get your information from trusted sources, such as the League.
- **Listen to music.** I have the *Hamilton* Broadway cast album on my playlist.
- **Take some action.** Do an action alert, contact your elected official, wear your LWV pin, or make a donation.
- **Walk away.** There are times you just have to walk away from those who will never be convinced of anything but their positions. Spend your time talking to the 36% who didn't bother to vote and find out why.
- **Do something silly!** I am actively considering dying my hair blue. I don't know why, but my grandchildren might think I've lost my mind... again.



- **Do something small to help others.** Small acts of kindness are good for you too. As I am recovering from my knee replacement, I have been amazed how traffic has stopped to let me cross the street. People doing small common courtesy can be in short supply these days.
- **Thank your elected officials or those who ran and didn't win.** It takes a lot of guts to run for office.
- **Review history.** I find it comforting that I can look back in history and cite many examples where our elected officials, the Supreme Court, and our Presidents have made terrible mistakes. It took people like us to work to change them. We can do it once more.

You are not alone. Together we are tenacious, strong, and have the skills to bring about positive change. Get engaged. There are numerous ways we need your skills to do our work. You can make a difference.

As our Voter Services and Advocacy teams mobilize, we need you. When a League member calls and asks you to join in, it is time to go into action. It rejuvenates me every time I am around League people. Let's be resilient together!

Carrie Moon-Dupree
President, Northwest Wayne County League



75th Anniversary Celebration: A Huge Success!

Our 75th Anniversary Celebration at the Country Club of Detroit was a resounding success! More than 130 members and guests gathered to honor our League's long history of nonpartisan civic engagement and community service.

The event featured a compelling and inspirational presentation by Barbara McQuade, University of Michigan law professor, MSNBC legal analyst, and former U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan. McQuade spoke about the importance of the League, specifically citing our position on book bans and our efforts to safeguard democracy.

The League was honored to receive congratulatory tributes from Senator Elissa Slotkin, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, State

Senator Kevin Hertel, State Representative Veronica Paiz, League of Women Voters US CEO Celina Stewart, and LWVMI Co-Presidents Denise Hartsough and Lynne Kochmanski. Each expressed appreciation for LWV Grosse Pointe's decades of leadership in voter education, advocacy, and community engagement. You can view the tributes at this [link](#).

Special thanks to our 75th Anniversary Committee members: Judy Masserang (Chair), Judy Florian, Marge Freundl, Vicki Granger, Julianne Phillips, and Annie Spence, for their outstanding work in planning and organizing this milestone celebration.

We also extend our gratitude to Martha Hutting for her beautiful calligraphy on the name tags, and to Patti Cardoze and Carol Lufburrow, our dedicated "Treasurer Corps," for their careful tracking and monitoring of registration and donation income.

The success of our event also wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors and the many League members who donated.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to President Lynne Pierce for so capably serving as Emcee, and to VP for Voter Services, Sue Acton, for sharing the inspiring story of our League's [history](#).

Check out more event photos in the blog on our website at this [link](#).



L-R: Judy Florian, Lynne Pierce, Christina Schlitt, and Mary Vitolins.



L-R: MI Representative Veronica Paiz, Lynne Pierce and MI Senator Kevin Hertel presenting 75th anniversary tribute.



Guest speaker Barbara McQuade



Remember to Vote

All voting is local! Election Day is Tuesday, November 4. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. If you have an absentee ballot, don't mail it-drop it off at your local clerk's office or place it in the drop box at your city hall. Your Vote Matters!

How to thank your *election heroes*

- ✓ Say thank you on Election Day.
- ✓ Share your **support** on social media.
- ✓ Encourage friends and family to **volunteer** as poll workers.
- ✓ Remind your community that **democracy depends on these unseen heroes.**

This
Election Hero Day,
let's make sure our **heroes** feel seen.

Election Hero Day

#ThankYouElectionHeroes

November 3 is Election Hero Day!

Our local clerks, poll workers, and absentee voter counting boards are true election heroes. By testing equipment and following careful procedures, they help ensure election integrity and keep our elections secure and accurate.

A special thanks to all of our League members who serve as Election Inspectors/Poll Workers, as well as those who serve on the Absentee Voter Counting Boards. Thanks for protecting every vote and our democracy!

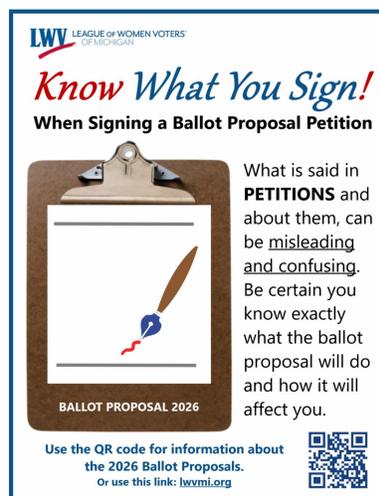
NO KINGS2

Several LWVGP members participated in the No Kings2 protest (endorsed by LWVUS) on Saturday, October 18, 2025. A group gathered in Grosse Pointe at Cadieux and Mack, with an estimated crowd of 1000.



Know What You Sign Program

LWVGP is sponsoring an educational program, *Know What You Sign*, to help voters understand the many petitions currently circulating. The program will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 p.m. at the GP Library, Ewald Branch, 15175 East Jefferson, GPP. This presentation is educational and will present information on what petitions are being circulated for 2026, and the proposal that is already on the 2026 ballot.



Voter Services Update

Candidate Forums

Our candidate forums always require a lot of help. We conducted a total of three forums. Many thanks to our Moderators: Diana Domin, Joan Richardson and Sue Acton as well as Kathy Rogers and Loren Mannino for making the introductions. Many volunteers were question sorters, timekeepers, or hospitality help, including:

Carol Bendure, Susan Budrys, Janet Burke, Carol Burns, Kathy Cernok, Barbara Choate, Holly Cory, Karen Feldman, Judy Florian, Marge Freundl, Mary Garlough, Martha Hutting, Mary Beth Kane, Lauri Kingsbury, Melissa Levasseur, Liz Martin, Judy Masserang, Laura McCourt, Jane Rousseau, Deb Sloss and Maria Williams.

Thanks also to Catherine Dumke and Marge Freundl and the Membership Committee for staffing a membership/hospitality table at each event.

Absentee Ballot Preparation

The cities of Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Farms requested the League's help with preparing absentee voter ballots for the November election. Thanks to the following volunteers who participated:

Sue Acton, Carol Bendure, Laurie Coplin, Holly Cory, Judy Florian, Martha Hutting, Lauri Kingsbury, Anastasia Koutsopoulos, Melissa Levasseur, Laura Larson, Carol Lufburrow, Liz Martin, Judy Masserang, Ann Nicholson, Julianne Phillips, Margrit Poynter, Kathy Rogers, Jane Rousseau, Cindy Safran, Annie Spence and Deborah Weatherston.

Text Banking

We had two successful sessions of text banking. The LWVGP team sent out 11,900 texts. Volunteers included Sue Acton, Holly Cory, Dawn Drozd, Catherine Dumke, Judy Florian, Vicki Granger, Mary Beth Kane, Lauri Kingsbury, Geri LaPratt, Judy Masserang, Kathy Rogers and Jane Rousseau.



Grosse Pointe Public Schools 2025 Bond Forum

LWVGP, in partnership with the GPPSS, hosted a forum to educate the community on the Bond Proposal. Superintendent Dr. Andrea Tuttle did an excellent job outlining the reasons for the proposal and areas earmarked for funding if it passes. The bond proposal is on the ballot for the November 4th General Election.

A recording of the event is available on the League's YouTube channel at this [link](#).



Question sorters, L-R: Holly Cory, Patti Cardoze and Mary Zahler.



Greeters, L-R: Carol Bendure, Rebecca Fannon (GPPSS), Joanne Swanson and Geri LaPratt.

Board of Canvassers Observation Starts November 5! Volunteers Needed

Observing the County Boards of Canvassers (BOCs) is one of the League of Women Voters of Michigan's signature election protection efforts. Our democracy partners rely on League observers to document how the canvassers conduct their work and to flag any areas of concern that may arise during the public meetings. Here are some resources for those interested in participating.

- [BOC Requirements and Observation Guidelines](#) - outlines the program's two requirements.
- [SignUp Genius \(SUG\) Instructions](#) - Contains the link, with instructions, on how to access the SUG tool via smartphone or computer (MAC or PC).

- **Shift Report** - BOC Observers are asked to document their canvass observations using this Google form no later than 2 hours after leaving the canvass meeting.
- **Observer Orientation Video**. Our October 20th BOC observer training includes expert guidance from election attorney Mark Brewer, who shares important context on the role of the County Boards of Canvassers and the observation process. **All observers are required to watch this video before taking on an observation shift.**
- BOC Observer **Program FAQs** provide a deeper dive into some questions you may have.

The Wayne County Board of Canvassers meets at the Ralph Vigliotti Building, 1900 East Jefferson, at St. Aubin, which is 15 minutes from Grosse Pointe. Their first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 5th. It's important we get as many observers signed up as possible. If you're interested, contact Sue Acton or Judy Florian at lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com. Put BOC observation in the subject line. Hope you can step up to help. We are the nonpartisan observers who are a key part of the final step to ensure free and fair elections in Michigan!



Member Spotlight: Jane Rousseau

Jane Rousseau joined the League in 2024 and has been involved with the LWVGP Membership Committee.

You will see Jane representing LWVGP at community events such as the North-South tailgate. "It's so nice to see people from across the Pointes," Jane said. Since she is on the Membership Committee, she sees these events as an opportunity for LWV recruitment.

Jane regularly attends LWVGP events, and most recently assisted at the sign-in table at the 75th Anniversary celebration. She has also worked at high school voter registration activities.

"Working on positive things is 'my happy place'," Jane says.

A graduate of Dominican High School (Detroit), Jane served as the school's



Office Manager for several years. She later worked for a number of organizations, including serving as the administrative assistant for the president of Mercy College.

After retirement, Jane served as a tour guide at the Renaissance Center for 13 years.

She has been a poll worker in Grosse Pointe Woods where she lives, and takes advantage of the community's early morning lap swim during the summer.

She is active with the group *Indivisible*, which promotes the principles of democracy. Jane was part of the *NoKings2* rally at Mack and Cadieux on October 18.

You will also see Jane ushering at Grosse Pointe Theatre productions.

Jane is a great example of how members can contribute to the League. While there are numerous committee chairs, LWVGP relies on all of our members to be the "boots on the ground."

Advocacy

Several members (Lauri Kingsbury, Carol Lufburrow, Joanne Swanson) are representing LWVGP on the LWVMI Election Law Study Group. This group is examining the existing advocacy position on Election Law. At the last meeting, the discussion centered around defining the four general methods of conducting primary elections found nationwide.

State Advocacy Action on LWVMI Public Library Position

Lauri Kingsbury made public comments at two meetings: Grosse Pointe Public Library Board of Trustees, September 25, 2025 and Harper Woods Public Library Trustees, October 16, 2025.. A copy of the comments was provided to trustees and library directors. Both groups conveyed their thanks to LWVGP for all our "trusted, nonpartisan work to inform voters."

On October 23, 2025, Lauri reported to the Grosse Pointe Public Library Board of Trustees that LWVMI will support the passage of HB 4251, The District Library Freedom to Read Act. She will report this good news to the Harper Woods Public Library Trustees at their November 20, 2025 meeting. For a current list of 2025 advocacy actions by LWVMI, go to this [link](#).

Lauri Kingsbury Achieves Parliamentarian Certification

Lauri Kingsbury, Advocacy Director, is now a certified member of the National Association of Parliamentarians. She attended online classes and participated in study groups for more than a year to prepare for this entry level certification exam. The Registered Parliamentarian (RP) is the next level up. Lauri has started classes for Registered Parliamentarians; its requirements are much more rigorous. Congratulations, Lauri and good luck on the next level!

Membership News

Welcome New Members

Betsy Alexander, St. Clair Shores
Donna Ambrose, Grosse Pointe Woods
Gina Granger, Grosse Pointe Park
Diane Karle, Grosse Pointe Woods
Dawn Lesperance, Grosse Pointe Park
Elizabeth Mikos, Grosse Pointe Farms
Aleksandra Miziolek, Grosse Pointe Farms
Lisa Rennell, Grosse Pointe City
Bernadette Pieczynski, Grosse Pointe Woods
Jan Vern, St. Clair Shores

The membership committee welcomes new members. Their next meeting is Tuesday, November 11, 2:00 p.m. at Catherine Dumke's house. You can email Catherine at this [link](#) for further information.

LWVGP October 2025 Board Meeting Highlights

- Observer Corps: Lauri Kingsbury and Liz Martin are assisting the Macomb County League in creating their own Observer Corps.
- In cooperation with Voter Services, Observers distributed LWVMI literature (*Voter Information 2025* and *Know What You Sign!*) to the libraries and city clerks' offices for Harper Woods and all five Grosse Pointes.
- Treasurer's Report:
 - Available Funds: \$9,950.64; Flagstar: \$6,032.76; PayPal: \$3,917.88
 - Retained Earnings Total: \$ 25,958.87

LWVGP Board through June 30, 2026

Executive Board (Elected)

- President: Lynne Pierce
- Vice President Programs: Vacant
- Vice President Voter Services: Sue Acton
- Secretary: Ruth Hoover
- Treasurer: Carol Lufburrow

On-Board Directors (Elected)

- Acting Director (Programs): Kathy Rogers
- Director (Voter Services): Holly Cory
- Director (Membership): Catherine Dumke
- Director (Membership): Judy Masserang
- Director (At-Large): Gerianne LaPratt

On-Board Positions (Appointed by the President)

- Advocacy Director: Lauri Kingsbury
- Assistant Treasurer: Patti Cardoze
- Communications Director and Parliamentarian: Judy Florian
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director: Martha Hutting
- Environmental Network Chair: Melissa Levasseur
- Observer Corps Director: Liz Martin

Off-Board Positions (Appointed by the President)

- Finance Review Coordinator: Connie Frey
- Historian: Annie Spence
- VOTE411 Coordinator: Raymond Andary
- Webmaster: Vicki Granger
- Voter Newsletter Co-editors: Judy Florian and Vicki Granger

Nominating Committee: Diana Domin (Chair), Kathy Cernok and Gerianne LaPratt (Members)

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/>

LWVGP on YouTube - no subscription necessary
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCloWa1Hw9PPhDvUY_2SB30w

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

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



Try email marketing for free today!