

The Voter Newsletter November 2026

*Over 75 Years of Serving the communities of
Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Park,
Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Woods, and Harper Woods*

Calendar

October 24-November 1: Early Voting period

November 3: Election Day

November 4-November 17: Board of Canvasser's post-election observation
(see article below)

December 8: Holiday Party (TBD)

March 11: Women's History Month Fundraiser

President's Message

Greetings, folks!

Well, Election Day is right around the corner! We have all been working hard to inform voters about the ballot proposals, candidates, and spreading the word that our **ELECTIONS ARE SAFE AND SECURE!**

Every election is important to democracy, but many of us feel that the state of our democracy hinges on this election more than ever before. There has been a concerted effort to undermine our democracy by attacking our election process. The League has been paying attention! We are fighting to protect voting rights throughout the country.

Locally, what can we do? We can continue to reassure people that our election process is sound and that our democracy depends upon their voting. We can encourage people to take advantage of early voting (October 24-November 1), which allows voters to cast their ballot at their city's designated location. We can suggest absentee voting (drop off their ballot at their city clerk's office to avoid any mail delays). These options will help minimize any problems at the polls.

What do you do if you witness or hear about a problem at the polls or elsewhere relating to the voting process? **Please let us know about it!** We have put together guidelines to assist you in reporting an incident to our League. We emailed this document to all members. In a nutshell, if it seems urgent or



immediate, call the Election Protection Hotline at 866-OUR-VOTE (866-867-8683). If it just needs to be reported, email our local League at lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com and put Voting Incident Report in the subject line. These guidelines will give you a step-by-step process to follow. **We ask that you keep these guidelines internal-do not share them with others outside the League.**

There is evidence that the current administration will do everything they can to disrupt this election. Our risk analysis team thinks it is unlikely we will see any problems in Grosse Pointe or Harper Woods. But you never know! Just remember to keep your cool and vote! **We cannot afford to stay home.**

See you after the election!

Lynne Pierce, President



LWVMI Print Voter Guide. Link to the document available on our website at lwvgrossepointe.org.



Holly Cory assists in delivering the print voter guide to clerks and other community organizations.



Joanne Swanson preps for deliveries of the print voter guide.

Voter Services Update

LWVMI Print Voter Guides

A special thanks to the following members who distributed over 4000 of the LWVMI Print Voter Guide throughout our community: Laurie Arora, Holly Cory, Marsha Goan, Mary Jo Johnson, Jenny King, Geri LaPratt, Loren Mannino, Laura McCourt, KellyAnn Ruda, Jan Ryndress, Deb Sloss, Joanne Swanson, Maria Williams and Mary Zahler. The guides were distributed to our local clerks in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods, churches, libraries and other organizations in the community. There are additional voter guides if anyone needs them. Please contact Deb Sloss at lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com.

Make a Plan to Vote

Did you make your plan to vote? Everything you need to prepare for the upcoming election is now available at VOTE411.org, the League's online voter guide. Enter your home address to view a personalized sample ballot with all the

rices, candidates, and ballot measures that will appear on your November 3 ballot.

On October 1st, 1500 Get Out the Vote (GOTV) postcards were mailed to voters throughout our community. Many thanks to Mary Beth Kane who stamped each one!

Several League members convened on Tuesday October 6th, via Zoom, to participate in the text banking campaign. Thanks to members Lauri Coplin, Holly Cory, Mary Ellen Geist, Rachel Guber, Mary Beth Kane, Lauri Kingsbury, Liz Martin, Laura McCourt, Jane Rousseau, and Joanne Swanson. These 'texters' completed a list of over 10,000 texts. The text banking population included voters on the Permanent Mail Ballot List and encouraging them to submit their Absentee Voter Ballot (AVB) via drop box or delivery to the clerk's office.

Voter Services reached more than 14,500 voters this past month through its many outreach efforts!

Board of Canvassers Observation

Equal and fair voting is the cornerstone of democracy—and democracy works best when every voice is heard. You can help protect that principle by volunteering as a post-election canvass observer!

The League of Women Voters of Michigan (LWVMI) leads a program that recruits volunteers to observe the work of local Boards of Canvassers as they review and certify election results. Observers help promote transparency, accountability, and public confidence in our elections. The canvassing process must be completed 14 days after the election.

Volunteer today and help ensure our elections remain fair, transparent, and trusted by all! If you are interested in signing up for a shift (or multiple shifts), please contact Judy Florian at voterservice@lwvmi.org.

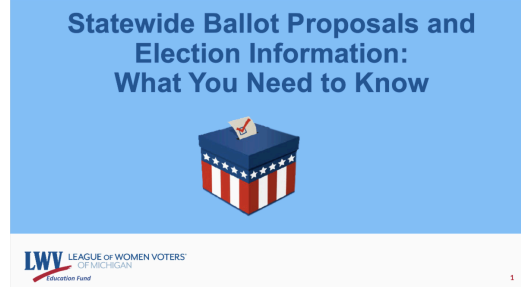


Statewide Ballot Proposals and Election Information: What You Need to Know

LWVGP members have helped community members better understand

statewide ballot proposals and other important election information.

- Lynne Pierce presented to the Sunrise Rotary on October 6.
- Liz Martin led a special program at the Central Library on October 20,
- Deb Sloss shared the information at The Helm on October 22. Lauri Kingsbury provided technical assistance and facilitated the Q & A portion of the program.



The presentations included copies of the LWVMI Print Voter Guide and plenty of time for questions and discussion. These outreach efforts not only help voters make informed decisions but also qualify for grant funding from LWVMI as local Leagues continue educating voters across the state.

Thanks to Deb, Liz, Lynne and Lauri for sharing their time and expertise with the community!



Deb Sloss presented at the Morning Mingle program at The Helm.



Liz Martin presented at the GP Public Library, Central Branch.

Member Spotlight: Sue Acton

Sue joined the League in 2016, immediately following the November election.

“At the time, I had a strong desire to be involved politically but didn’t have strong partisan leanings,” she said. “LWV was perfect for that.”

Sue has served LWVGP in a variety of capacities.

- In March 2017, she began serving as Director of Voter Services and continued in that role until becoming President-Elect in 2020 and then serving as President from 2021 to 2023.
- Sue stayed on the Board as VP for Voter Services through June 2026.



- In her role with Voter Services, Sue produced and/or moderated many candidate forums, directed several high school voter registration drives, directed GOTV efforts and helped League members find a place to serve with LWVGP.

“As President, we were coming out of the COVID years, and I was most encouraged by the board’s willingness to develop strong committees to carry out the work of the League.”

Sue was also involved with the League's book banning policy. “I was delighted that the issue I brought to the board, the strong potential that a group would pursue local book banning, was taken up by our talented members, turned into policy, and taken to both the state and national conventions. The policy resulted in zero attempts to ban books locally.”

Sue likes “working with the best and the brightest people in Grosse Pointe who are willing to make a political, but nonpartisan, difference in the community, state, and country.”

Her favorite part of League work is that whenever LWVGP members are asked, they deliver. Whether it’s a voter registration drive, assisting clerks with AVB assembly, delivering voter guides, or any of the 10–12 Voter Services “asks” each year, people step up to help.

An MBA graduate from the University of Michigan, Sue worked in Corporate Finance for the Burroughs Corporation. She paused to raise children in the early 1990s and then found that mortgage lending was flexible enough to be a great “mom job.” At the time, Sue was a single parent with two children and worked at Republic Bank, Chase Bank, and Quicken Loans until the mortgage industry imploded.

Her marriage to Bob Acton in 2009 allowed her to change direction, and she became the Outreach Coordinator at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and a substitute teacher in Grosse Pointe and Harper Woods schools. She left her church position when volunteering roles took most of her time.

When she’s not working with the League, Sue is a volunteer docent at the Detroit Institute of Arts and takes art slide shows to senior communities. She still substitutes part-time for the Grosse Pointe Public Schools.

She is also a trustee at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church and a member of the church’s quilting group. She has also taken painting classes and enjoys sewing, crocheting, and reading with a book club or on her own. She loves to travel, both to visit grandchildren in Traverse City and Florida and to see the world with at least one “big trip” each year.

Board Meeting Highlights-October 2026

- **March 11, 2027 Fundraiser at the War Memorial:** Speaker: Carrie Moon-Dupree, President, LWV Northwest Wayne; Topic: *Swimming Suffragettes: The Evolution & Revolution of Women's Bathing Suits*. Carrie has received rave reviews on her presentation and we are so fortunate to have her help with our fundraiser. **We need many volunteers for lots of tasks!** Please

contact Lauri Kingsbury at lwvgrossepointe@gmail.com and put 'fundraiser' in the subject line.

- **Advocacy Committee:** The committee has reached a tentative agreement to start a study on the question of surveillance cameras. There has been much in the news concerning citizens' objections to the use and misuse of police surveillance cameras, particularly with regard to the Flock brand cameras. This topic will be reviewed after the November election.
- **Treasurer's Report:** Retained Earnings Total: \$ 25,617.59 invested in Vanguard Total Bond Market Index Fund.
- **Our table at the Joiner Fair, War Memorial**, on October 7 was in a premier spot (Table #1) and we had non-stop visitors throughout the event. The membership committee believes we handed out approximately 130 membership packets, but many who stopped simply wanted The LWVMI Voter Guide, a great election resource!

Membership Report

We currently have 161 members. We welcome the following new members and are especially pleased to have many youth members join our ranks, thanks to work by our Youth Outreach Committee.

- Maxwell Brown (youth membership), Clinton Twp
- Steve Geresy, Grosse Pointe Park
- Lauren Harris (youth membership), Grosse Pointe Woods
- Sonya Jayakar (youth membership), Grosse Pointe Woods
- Erin Kane (youth membership), Harper Woods
- Shannon Kane, (youth membership) Harper Woods
- Pamela Loomis, Grosse Pointe Shores (returning member)
- Otto Kimball Massie, Ferndale (youth membership)
- Kylie McClain, (youth membership) Grosse Ile
- Ellen Usher Rancilio, Grosse Pointe Woods
- Hans Wimmer (youth membership), Detroit
- Blaire Wright (youth membership), Detroit

LWVGP Board through June 30, 2027

Executive Board (Elected)

President: Lynne Pierce

President-Elect: Liz Martin

Secretary: Ruth Hoover

Treasurer: Carol Lufburrow

VP Programs: Lauri Kingsbury

VP Voter Services: Deb Sloss

On-Board Directors (Elected)

Director Membership: Catherine Dumke

Director Membership: Judy Masserang

Director Voter Services: Holly Cory

On-Board positions (Appointed by the President)

Director Advocacy: Loren Mannino

Assistant Treasurer: Patti Cardoze

Director Communications: Judy Florian

Director DEI: Martha Hutting

Event Coordinators: Melissa Levasseur; Margrit Poynter

Co-Directors Observer Corps: Joan Hall, Geri LaPratt

Off-Board positions (Appointed by the President)

Bylaws Chair: Anne McAlpine

Financial Review Coordinator: Mary Zahler

Historian: Molly McGrane-Cleary

Newsletter Co-Editors: Judy Florian, Vicki Granger

Parliamentarian: Vacant

Vote 411 Coordinator: Sarah Coats

Webmaster: Vicki Granger

Youth Outreach: Julianne Phillips

Nominating Committee Chair: Kathy Cernok; Members: Jan Ryndress (elected); Martha Hutting (appointed)

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!