

Don't Forget! [Print out & RSVP](#) for
LWVGP May 13 Annual Spring Breakfast Meeting

Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

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

Activities This Month:

Sat, May 13, 8:30 am
Annual Spring Breakfast
Meeting

Country Club of Detroit
220 Country Club Dr, GPF

May 19-21
Michigan's LWV State Convention
Kellogg Center in East Lansing

Keep reading below for additional details. Hope to see you there!

Attention District 1: Election
Info for a New House Rep

This is a Message from the **State House District 1** Staff:
Brian Banks resigned as the representative of the 1st House District in February, but staff of House District 1 are still available to assist you. They will make every effort to respond to your needs, questions and concerns as soon as possible. To contact their office, please call (517) 373-0154 or reach them toll-free at (888) 254-5291, or leave them a message using [this contact form](#).

The primary election for Brian Banks' replacement is on **Aug. 8**, and the general election will be on **Nov. 7**.

[Click here for additional information](#) on the special election for District 1 State Representative.

[To review the current candidate list, click here](#)

State House District 1 covers GP Shores, GP Woods, Harper Woods as well as an eastern section of Detroit.
[To review the complete district map click here](#)

April 2017

From the Prez...

On April 17th, we had training for moderators for presenting the League's Redistricting Position. If anyone knows of a group that would like to be educated on this hot topic, please contact one of our coordinators, Mary Jo Johnson in GP and Maria Rivera in Macomb. They will be able to assist in providing a presenter, venue, appropriate partnering, etc.

As of April 25, all candidates for local offices had to register. In the near future, look for Forums for any of the contested elections. In these off years, the elections are primarily local. All City Councils, some Judges, and District 1 (replacement for Brian Banks) are in play. We will try to have Forums for all contested elections. Contact Judy Florian if you are interested in assisting.

The postponed Grosse Pointe Public School System Forum on Diversity was finally held on April 12th. It was very informative and well received. For anyone that wants to see the televised program, it is available on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) page, and the [GPPSS website](#).

The Annual Meeting is just around the corner on May 13th. If you haven't already done so, please reserve your place by May 6th. I look forward to seeing all of you there!!

Tom

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

May 13: Annual Spring Breakfast Meeting
Just Around the Corner



Presenters & speakers along with LWV Pres Tom Wells (L): Anthony Lewis, Maureen Bur, Dr Agustin Arbulu, Barry Checkoway, Dr Gary Niehaus, Greg Bowens, Mark McInerney. Not pictured: Keith Howell

School Funding Deliberations in Lansing

School funding for next year's State of Michigan budget will be discussed in the legislature next week.

Dr. Gary C. Niehaus, Superintendent of Grosse Pointe Public School System, has written a letter outlining the needs of our district for both funding and general stability.



To read his letter [click here](#), then let your Representative & State Senator know how you feel. You can find the contact information on our website at "[Government Links](#)" page.

The Morlans Arrange an Enlightening Great Lakes Meeting

On Thursday, April 25th, our League presented a program on current issues with our Great Lakes. Our speaker was Krista Grimm, President of the LWV [Lake Michigan ILO](#). Ms. Grimm gave a power point presentation, which was very effective in educating her audience with respect to problems facing our Great Lakes, ranging from cuts in government spending, invasive species (both plant and animal), commercial dumping and pollution, climate change, private driveway sealants and garden fertilizers.



Krista Grimm with Judy & Gordon Morlan, Natural Resources Chair

The audience was greatly engaged, asking lots of questions. Ms. Grimm

enlightened us and gave us ideas on how to help and be involved. If you missed this meeting, and wish to inquire about remediation techniques, and support for our Great Lakes, contact Judy or Gordon Morlan.

Ann and Jim Nicholson graciously hosted this very informative meeting.



Jan Wells

Mark your calendar and send in your reservation early for our Annual Spring Breakfast Meeting.

Saturday, May 13
Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
Country Club of Detroit
220 Country Club Drive, GPF

A beautiful buffet breakfast will be served at 9:00, followed by our speaker, **Judy Karandjeff, President of the League of Women Voters of Michigan**. Her topic, "**Protecting Our Democracy**", will include an update on current proposed legislation of interest to the League.

Judy has a long history of volunteering with the League, both in her Lansing Branch and at the state level, where she was legislative Chair 1981-83 and Advocacy Chair the four years prior to becoming President. She is extremely knowledgeable about Michigan politics and speaks throughout the state on the need for redistricting reform. Long a civil rights and women's activist, Judy has a master's of Public Administration and was Executive Director of the Michigan's Women's Commission and Planned Parenthood Affiliates and Advocates of Michigan.

Following the speaker will be the Annual Meeting where members elect officers, approve next year's budget and propose program ideas.

To reserve, please send a check to LWVGP for \$20.00 to Jan Wells, 472 Shelbourne Rd., GP Farms, MI 48236 by May 6. (FYI, this is a new RSVP address).

[Print out your reservation form here.](#)

Valet parking will be available.

GPPSS Diversity Forum is Online

If you were unable to attend the public forum April 12th where the Grosse Pointe Public School System Diversity Plan was presented, the event was videotaped and can be accessed from the [school district website](#)

Mary Jo Johnson, George McMullen, & Kathy Poore collect questions at the GPPSS Diversity Forum



High School Voter Registration a Success!

Voter Services conducted its second annual Voter Registration Campaign for high school seniors during the lunch hours at Grosse Pointe North (April 20) and Grosse Pointe South (April 21).

We had a great turnout of enthusiastic seniors who were excited to complete the registration process. We registered 29 seniors at GP North and 45 seniors at GP South. We felt this was a good number, considering it's a non-presidential election year.

VP for Program

Membership Matters

I encourage all members to attend our annual meeting **Saturday, May 13, 2017, 8:30 AM** at the **Country Club of Detroit**. This is an especially great opportunity for new members to meet other members, hear an insightful speaker, and participate in discussions regarding public policy issues at the local and state level. This is also your opportunity to identify activities you would like to be involved with in the new year. [Please print out and complete this registration form.](#)

Membership-dues envelopes will be available at the annual meeting for those members needing to renew their membership for 2017-18. Renewing your membership at this meeting will avoid unnecessary postage, so bring your checkbook!

Wilhelmina Giblin
Membership Chair

Do you know a family member or friend who is thinking about joining?
[Hand them one of our membership forms to mail in!](#)

Learn all about the League.
[Check out the LWV's New Member Handbook here](#)

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.

The students also received information about how to vote absentee, since most of them will be off to college in the Fall. In addition, we provided a copy of the LWV brochure and Directory of Elected Officials to each registrant. Maria Mitzel, Director of Student Activities at GP South, and Peggy Bonbrisco, Director of Student Activities at GP North, were extremely helpful in announcing our campaign to students, as well as handling logistics at the schools. They both expressed gratitude to the League for providing this opportunity for their students and would like us to continue this on an annual basis.

We were extremely happy to have City Clerks from Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe Woods, and a representative from Grosse Pointe Park, attend, which provided the opportunity to have the students' applications certified "on the spot". In addition, I was deputized by the Clerk of Grosse Pointe Shores (who was unable to attend), which allowed me to certify applications for their students.

A very special thanks to League members Sue Acton, Sarah Coats, Belinda Krencicki, Carol Todd and Tom Wells for their assistance with this important activity!

Judy Florian
VP for Voter Services

Proposed Amendments for Approval at the Annual Meeting

All LWVGP members,

Article XII of our bylaws require one months' notice before the annual meeting for any amendments to be voted on at said meeting.

Therefore, I am providing the following **two proposed amendments** for approval at the Annual Meeting on May 13, 2017:

Amendment #1 is a requirement. We are obligated to conform our bylaws when either the State or National Leagues amend theirs. At last year's National Convention, the bylaws were amended to include anyone (not just Citizens) at least 16 (not 18) years of age as eligible to join as Voting Members.

Amendment #2 has been proposed as a courtesy to new members joining between July 1 and December 31 each year. Currently, these members have dues payable on the following July 1. This amendment would have their dues payable on November 30 of the following year.

Since we don't have prorated dues, this would provide that they wouldn't have dues payable for a year after they joined. This is similar to those that join between January 1 and June 30 each year, in that they don't have dues payable until the following July 1 (i.e. joining February 1, 2017 means no additional dues until July 1, 2018). This proposed amendment would only apply to members joining after July 1, 2016.

If there are any questions, feel free to contact me before the annual meeting.

Tom

LWVGP Annual Budget Review

In preparation for our Annual Meeting in May, and as required by our Bylaws, the annual budget is available for review in this newsletter. A



vote to adopt the budget will take place at the meeting.

[To review the League's budget, click here.](#)

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](#)



["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](#)



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