

Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

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

Congratulations Christina!



LWVGP sends its well wishes and congratulations to **Christina Schlitt**, a LWVGP Past President, as she begins her tenure as President of LWV-Michigan.

Pictured here, along with Christina, are **Judy Florian** and **Sue Acton**, LWVGP's current Voter Services officers, which is a portfolio that Christina also devoted many years.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Webinars

The spring series of DEI webinars has ended, and LWV is planning a deeper dive into this topic in a new series beginning June 27. These webinars offer tools any member can use in League work or in other aspects of life. The webinars are free and one may choose to participate or just listen. Upcoming dates are:

June 27

July 25

August 29

September 26

You must register at lwv.org/league-management/leadership-development/lwv-diversity-equity-and-inclusion-webinars. Leagues around the country have been putting these ideas to use in their activities, so tune in to learn what it is all about.

July 2019

From the Prez...

Welcome to Summer in Michigan - maybe never?

We had a great turnout for the Annual Meeting. Josh Elling, the CEO of Jefferson East, Inc. was our featured speaker and he did not disappoint. What an inspiration! The accomplishments to date and the plans for more to come are awesome. From the bike lanes on Jefferson from the City Limits to downtown; to the new building and improvements in West Village; to the plans for the continued development of both new and old buildings; we were enthralled. It also is heartwarming to see someone so dedicated to assisting in the revitalization of Detroit.

Our business meeting following the speaker was eventful also. The Bell Ringer awards (see more in this Voter), and the presentation of the 50 Year Membership Certificates to Jo Ann Kelly and Flo Rhodes were fun to see.

The business meeting also was the final piece of approval necessary to move the merge of our LWVGP organization (the C/4) and the LWVGP Education Fund (the C/3), which was unanimously passed. The nitty gritty of the process is now in the hands of Carol Lufburrow, Treasurer of the C/4, Connie Frey, Treasurer of the C/3, and yours truly. Our goal is to have the basics completed by the end of the month. We will then have one Board of Directors, one group of Officers, one set of books, one budget, and, best of all, all dues, donations and contributions will be tax deductible.

I wish everyone a warm (if it ever happens) and happy Summer. See you in September.

P.S. Your dues are to be paid by the end of the month.

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

Reminder for Board Members: June 27 Joint Old/New Board Meeting

Remember to RSVP yes or no to Tom Wells for the joint board meeting & dinner on

**Thurs, June 27
6:00 pm
472 Shelbourne**

Questions? Call me.
Wilhelmina Giblin
Diversity Director

Lake Michigan Conference

LWV Lake Michigan Region is holding its Annual Meeting in Michigan this fall, **October 25-26, at the Lakeside Inn in Lakeside, MI.**



This is a beautiful venue and a registered historical site.

The keynote speaker topic is "Groundwater, the 6th Great Lake".

To register or learn more go to <https://www.lwvlmr.org/>.

Tentative 2019-2020 Program

Save the Dates!
The Program Committee, headed by VP for Programs Val Kindle and Director Vicki Granger, has a full line-up of programs for our 2019-2020 year. Members are encouraged to join the Program Committee to help on at least one program during the year.

Thursday, Sept. 19
GPW Cook Schoolhouse

7 p.m..
Kickoff meeting
"Promote the Vote" update
Speaker: Sharon Dolente, Voting Strategist, ACLU

Sharon coordinated Promote the Vote efforts, and spoke at the May 2019 LWVMI convention. She will be updating us on the implementation of the Promote the Vote, successfully passed by voters in November 2018.

October is Voter Education Month.

Voter Services will be organizing a variety of candidate forums for the various city elections.

Thursday, Nov. 21

Grosse Pointe Farms

Refreshments/pizza provided, but BYO wine.

Reduce, Repurpose, Recycle!

Our journey into the efficacy of the GP recycling program has led us into uncharted (for LWVGP) waters. We began with the possible options for recycling in GP, and moved across a continuum to the inevitable conclusion that global warming is a reality we will all have to deal with.



The recycling program in GP is in a static state-of-affairs due to several issues:

1. Our curbside program is not as effective, nor efficient, as we would like it to be. Due to the closure of the Detroit incinerator, and China's disinclination to landfill our non-recyclables, we have no alternatives for disposing of our voluminous, non-recyclable trash.
2. The whole world needs to find a solution for breaking down plastics (much of which has a half-life of 500 years!) Meanwhile, the earth's population needs to find a way to live without plastic!
3. The recycling market is suffering from a lack of buyers for our recycled goods.
4. There is a serious shortage of recycling centers.
5. There is a gross inequity of recycling mandates for: Commercial, environmental, and political entities.
6. PFAS and PFOS have entered the fray, already causing serious damage in the environment. (ie. The food chain).

Suggestions for some recycling options:

1. Medicines and vitamins, both prescription and over-the-counter, can be disposed of at the GPW city offices on Mack, and the GPP city offices. (NO liquids)
2. Plastic bags from Kroger, CVS, etc., can be taken to SOC. They are being used to crochet 6 X 3' mats for the homeless. This is called PLARN: Plastic yarn!
3. Hazardous waste events: Grosse Pointe Shores, Grosse Pointe Farms, Grosse Pointe, Grosse Pointe Park, and Harper Woods sponsor an event once a year in the spring on a collaborative basis. Donors must have proof of residency.

Grosse Pointe Woods will offer a Hazardous event on October 19, residents only. Must have proof of residency.
Wayne County's Dept. of Public Services: WCCC - Downriver Campus, 21000 Northline Rd. Taylor Saturday, October 19.

Contact Jan Wells with feedback.
313-884-6904 or najslllew@gmail.com

Michigan League of Women Voters Convention Recap

Wayne County Community College
District University Center
Harper Woods
7 p.m.

The 2020 census is around the corner, and this meeting will inform LWVGP members about the census, and the efforts for a complete count.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

Holiday Party
At the home of Sue Acton.
Details to come.

January 2020 - Program (Advocacy)
Planning for national positions.
Details to come.

February 2020 - 100th anniversary
of LWVUS.
Details to come.

March 2020 - Women's History
Month.
Details to come.

April 2020 - program with the
GP/HW NAACP.
Details to come.

May 20, 2020 - speaker on the 19th
amendment in conjunction with the
GP Historical Society.
Details to come.

May or June 2020 - Annual
meeting of the LWVGP.
Details to come.

Dues are due!

Membership dues for the 2019-20
fiscal year are due no later than July 1,
2019.
Regular membership is \$60.00,
household membership is \$90.00.

[Click here for renewal form.](#)

Mail check to
LWVGP, 32 Lakeshore Drive
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236.

Your prompt response is VERY
appreciated!

Sarah Coats
Membership

The Grosse Pointe League was well represented at the LWVMI Convention in Livonia, May 17-19, 2019. A total of 12 people attended, some serving as voting delegates. The program was excellent, with many inspiring speakers.



The pre-convention workshop provided an update on the Gerrymandering litigation, in which the LWVMI took a very active role. **Legal Counsel Jay Yaeger and Attorney Mark Brewer** were the speakers and presented a very detailed account of the 3-day trial. They shared various district maps of Michigan, which clearly showed partisan districting. It was amazing to learn that they provided their services pro-bono. Although the case was victorious, a lawsuit has been filed to block the redistricting effort. The Supreme Court will probably decide the outcome. There was also an excellent update on the Voting Rights Initiative passed last November. **Promote the Vote** received 67% support by the voters; 80 of 83 Michigan counties supported it. Michigan now has no-reason absentee voting, voter registration up to Election Day, no voter in person requirement for first time voters, straight party voting and on-line voter registration (expected Summer, 2019).



Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, 13th District Representative, was our breakfast speaker and provided a very inspiring talk about her **We Have the Right to Breathe** campaign for those in her district affected by pollution by PetCoke and harmful PFAS substances. She is a co-sponsor of House Bills HR535 and H1976. She also updated us on the Class of 2018-new female representatives in Congress- and the new energy they are bringing to the Congressional floor.

A panel discussion on the closing day featured **Diane Rockall** and **Kathleen Straus**, both long-time members of the League. Diane wrote the 75-year history of the Michigan League. Kathy was a long-time president of the Detroit League and also served seven two-year terms as President of the State Board of Education in Michigan, as well as Staff Director of the Senate Education Committee in Lansing. Both provided historical perspectives of the Michigan League.



There were also several breakout sessions for attendees, featuring Voter Services, Water Quality/Advocacy, US Census, ERA Update, LWV Best Practices and Engaging Members.

Four of our League members were recognized as "Bell Ringers": **George McMullen** for fundraising, **Sue Acton** for voter services, **Wilhelmina Giblin** for membership and **Jan Wells** for Program. It was good to see their hard work appreciated.

Directions to the Board

Members at every Annual Meeting are encouraged to bring items or issues of interest to the Board's attention for action the following year.

Members spoke of the following:

- Immediate action concerning the Line 5 pipeline. Make this a priority. - Ann Kondak
- Adopt a policy re the DEI Initiative - Wilhelmina Giblin
- Help the Jefferson-Chalmers area schools - Mary Jo Johnson
- Distribute "Vote" lawn signs
- Recycling - Jan Wells explained the ideas from the new Recycling Committee and tried to gauge the interest of members in this topic. Carol Lufburrow mentioned a possible visit to the Holden Recycling Center, Jo Ann Kelly suggesting tying our interests into national program planning. Also, the Helm collects plastic bags to make mats for the homeless, and there was discussion about how to reduce the use of single-use plastics.

New Projector

Our League has purchased a projector for PowerPoint presentations. Vicki Granger is the go-to person on its use.

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](#)

The League of Women Voters encourages the informed and active participation of citizens

We were also pleased to observe our own **Vicki Granger** be elected to the LWVMI Board and former GP League President

Christina

Schlitt take the reins as Michigan LWV President, effective July 1, 2019. Christina follows **Judy Karandjeff**, outgoing President, who has done an exemplary job during her terms as President.



Judy Florian
Voter Services
Voting Delegate to LWVMI Convention



Student Voter Registration Campaign a Success!

Voter Services completed the Student Voter Registration Campaign at the local high schools in April and early May. We registered a total of 175 students: 61 at Grosse Pointe North, 75 at Grosse Pointe South, 32 at Harper Woods and an additional 7 at the GP South College Night.

We were very pleased to have the participation/support of our local clerks/assistant clerks in this campaign: Donna Costa and Courtney Delmege, Grosse Pointe Park, Julie Arthurs, Grosse Pointe City (deputized), Paul Antolin, Grosse Pointe Woods, Derrick Kozicki, Grosse Pointe Farms and Laurel Lombardi, Harper Woods.

A very special thanks to the following League members who assisted with this voter registration event.

Sue Acton, Laurie Coplin, Diana Domin, Deb Frantz, Mary Garlough, Peggy Hickey, Val Kindle, George McMullen and Mary Morshead.

Judy Florian
VP for Voter Services

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.



["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](#)

[The 2019 Membership Directory](#)



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