

Subj: **LWVGP Voter: November/December 2012**
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 From: thevoter@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org
 To: league@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org

Grosse Pointe|VOTER

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

November-December Issue

If you print out your newsletter, click
 these links and print these documents
 too.

[Holiday Party Reservation Form](#)
[LWVMI Board Nomination Form](#)

"A Holiday Affair"

WHEN: Tuesday, December 4, 2012

TIME: Arrival & Check In: 6:00 pm
 Cocktails 6:15 pm
 Dinner: 7:00 pm sharp

WHERE: Grosse Pointe War Memorial
 Reception and Dining Rooms

EVENT COST: \$38.00 (\$1.00 less than last
 year!)

Join us for holiday cheer, fine dining,
 lovely music and a strolling dessert with
 your fellow League members and friends.
 Our entertainment this year will be the
 wonderful Bellringers Group Classical
 Bells. We hope you'll consider bringing
 guests to this event to show them the fun
 side of the League. Due to the advanced
 preparation activities required by the
 Grosse Pointe War Memorial, we cannot
 accept walk-in attendees. Reservations
 must be paid in advance of the event.

Please send in your reservation
 form above and payment by Tuesday,
 November 27 to

Peggy Hickey
 7002 Harbor Place Drive
 St. Clair Shores, MI 48080

If you have any questions or would like
 more information, please call Peggy at

From the Prez...

Whew! This was indeed a busy election season for all
 Leagues. Kudos to Susan Leithauser-Yee, Vice President
 Voter Services, for all of the candidate and proposal forums in
 her inaugural year. The term is "baptism by fire" I believe.
 Well done Susan and thanks for not running away screaming!
 Thanks also to Martha Shumaker for doing a proposal
 presentation in Detroit. Thank you to all members for
 enthusiastically helping at forums to provide voter educational
 opportunities for our community. Steve Trowbridge has
 agreed to be the editor of the Vote411 candidate on-line voter
 guide for at least the next two years as part of the Voter
 Services committee. Special thanks to Paula Bowman, former
 President and current Vice President of Voter Services for the
 Northwest Wayne County League for the outstanding
 moderating for the (new) 14th Congressional District
 Candidate forum in October. We are looking ahead to a
 possible candidate forum in early February for the Farms City
 Council special election at the end of February 2013.

Your Government Officials (YGO) updating, preparation and
 printing will be spearheaded by Flo Rhodes, Director of Voter
 Services. Jim O'Dell from Pointe Printing has graciously
 agreed to print the 7000 copies for distribution in January to
 the Pointes and Harper Woods. Our fellow member, Don
 Dungan, who has taken charge of this process in the past
 (actually: forever!) has passed the torch. His high standards
 (and choice of colors) will be a challenge to meet. Thank you
 Mr. Dungan for all of the years in preparing the LWVGP local
 brochure: Your Government Officials. This annual publication
 is supported by the LWVGP Education Fund.

The Long Range Planning project will be led by Off-Board
 Director, Vicki Granger. A SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses,
 Opportunities and Threats) analysis was proposed to the
 board by Vicki and was supported. Look for a SWOT analysis
 survey in the next Voter.

(313) 407-1842 or
e-mail at: mahdwh@aol.com.

IRON JAWED ANGELS WAS A SUCCESS

Many of you may have wondered how well the Suffragist movie was received. You could have heard a pin drop for the entire 2 hours that the film lasted! We had over thirty very enthusiastic attendees at the Woods Library. Popcorn was plentiful and the HBO film experience was much like a regular movie night thanks to our 4 partners for this event:

AAUW American Association of University Women

Grosse Pointe Historical Society

Friends of the G P Library

Beaumont Medical Group.

LWVGP appreciates their support and looks forward to future collaborations.

The exception was that the viewers were treated to a history lesson as to how the League of Women Voters evolved as an extension of the long struggle that culminated with the passage of the 19th Amendment granting women the "right to vote"!

It was exciting and disturbing to graphically see how our government leaders, and even President Woodrow Wilson, resisted with all their might the quiet dignity of determined women picketing the White House day after day. Finally many members of the two organizations, who were forerunners of the LWV, were arrested on bogus charges and eventually were force-fed after they went on a hunger strike. The end was a joyous celebration of the hard won victory. It is important for us to understand what those women went through for us.

Today the League continues to foster the education of voters through voter guides and forums, voter registrations and the easing of restrictions, which keep voters away from the polls. The newest goal is to push for a bi-partisan redistricting committee to oversee the drawing up of voter districts to avoid political favoritism for the party currently in power.

LWVGP presented the HBO movie, Iron Jawed Angels right after the election at the Grosse Pointe Woods Library. Judy Morlan organized a collaboration with several other community organizations such as AAUW, Grosse Pointe Historical Society, Beaumont Health Systems and the Friends of the Library for the presentation and refreshments. If you missed this showing, I encourage you to take the time to watch it-with family members, especially daughters and granddaughters. Our youth may not be aware of the history of women finally attaining the right to vote. That milestone is not even 100 years ago.

Now let's allow some time to simply socialize with fellow LWVGP members and guests at a great Holiday dinner at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial on Tuesday, 4 December. Send in reservations to Peggy Hickey as soon as you can. The deadline is the 27th of November. The reservation form is attached and has been sent via an email blast from Martha. Make sure you contact Peggy even if you are close to the deadline.

In League,
Christina Schlitt
President

Program Report

Finally, the election is over, and we can concentrate a little more on our agenda! October was a very busy month, with all the candidate forums we presented, thanks to Susan Leithauser-Yee and her committee.

November 8, we had our own private viewing of the suffragette movie, IRON JAWED ANGELS. The movie was excellent, and much enjoyed by an enthusiastic audience. Thanks to Judy Morlan and her elves for a great evening. Now it is time for everyone to support our festive holiday party, on December 4. Peggy Hickey has made the arrangements for a special evening at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial. Please fill out your reservation blank, and mail your check to Peggy by Nov. 27.

After the first of the year, we will be guests at the home of Kay Felt, for our Program Planning Meeting. It is scheduled on January 24, and valet parking will be provided. In February, we will have Ms. Amanda VanDusen speak to us on the emerging power of women in the political and economic process. She has impeccable credentials, and is currently the first female partner in the prestigious law firm of Miller Canfield. It should be a very enlightening evening.

We are currently working on a wonderful speaker for March, with a focus on Sunshine Week. More on that later.

Respectively submitted,
Jan Wells

I would like to my express my thanks to a fantastic committee: Beth Martin for the lay-out of the program and for the publicity, Christina Schlitt for help every step of the way and Jan Wells for moral support.

Judy Morlan

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy.



Treasurer's Report

We are very grateful to Tom Wells, who has not only done a financial review of our books for 2011-2012 but is in the process of updating the Treasurer's computer program to Quick Books Pro and helping to set up clear, concise reports. He has been most generous with his time in helping during this transition. By January, with the help of Tom and QB Pro, we will have timely, easy-to-understand reports.

Sincerely,
Mary Zahler
LWVGP Treasurer

2013-2015 LMVMI Board Nominations

It is time for the LWVMI Nominating Committee to plan for a slate of Officers and Directors for the state board for the 2013-2015 term. They

Vice President, Program

Voter Services

October is the busiest month of the year for Voter Services. We

- Hosted five candidate forums; Grosse Pointe School Board, Harper Woods School Board, State Representative District 1, State Representative District 2 and U.S. Congressional District 14.
- Distributed 2,000 of the very popular print Voter Guides (The libraries were clamoring for them, prior to distribution!)
- Utilized Vote411.org as our online Voter Guide, with great help from the Dearborn and Northwest Wayne County leagues.
- Presented objective information about the six State and five Wayne County ballot proposals.

Thank you to the smart and dedicated volunteers who made these events possible. Our next charge is to meet with our newly-elected officials.

Susan Leithauer-Yee
Vice President, Voter Services

The League in Action: Candidate Forums



Christina Schlitt (left) and George McMullen (right) with the candidates Gary Peters, Douglas Campbell, John Hauler at the 14th District Congressional Representative forum



Candidates Cindy Pangborn, Judy Gafa, William Broman at the Grosse Pointe School Board forum

DMA Meeting Report

The Detroit Metro Area LWV board met Nov. 17 and first reviewed many of our Voter Service activities over the last couple of months.

Every League had major accomplishments. For example, Dearborn members delivered 4,400 state voter guides to 22 city clerks in

Wayne County whose cities don't have an LWV presence!

would appreciate your help in developing a list of League leaders for that board. They are looking for team players dedicated to the League who keep their commitments, follow through on assignments, and enjoy working with and for the LWV. They need people with skills in a variety of areas including administration, finance, program, advocacy, and outreach (public relations, membership).

They encourage your nominations. Print out a form and send in your nomination(s) today!

[2013-2015 LWVMI Board Nomination Form](#)

**Letter of Thanks from LWVUS
President Elisabeth MacNamara
November 8, 2012**

Another election season has come to an end and I want to give a huge round of applause to all of you - voters, League Leaders, poll workers, poll watchers! Many of you worked tirelessly registering voters at thousands of registration events, providing millions of voters with the information they needed through printed materials, online resources, hosting candidate debates and forums, encouraging your friends and family to vote, and engaging your community in other ways...

[To read her complete letter to LWV members, click here](#)

They compiled and published a booklet explaining the state ballot proposals. Oakland County also composed and printed proposal material.

Betsy Cushman, one of their members, handled a phone line for election questions from Wayne County residents. I think she fielded 175 requests, mostly from Detroit.

Meanwhile Paula Bowman of Northwest Wayne County guest-moderated Grosse Pointe's candidate forum for the 14th Congressional District, including the Green Party candidate. Each local League can decide whether it will include "minor" party candidates in our forums.

Carolyn Buell from Dearborn reports on transportation matters in southeast Michigan. She asked our LWV members to join in urging Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville to schedule a full Senate vote on establishing a Regional Transportation Authority - the most important step, now we have the federal and state government's attention. Call him at 517 -373-3543. You can also contact Senator Arlan Meekhof, who manages the Senate's schedule: (toll-free 866-305-2130). More information is at www.DetroitTransit.org or 313-963-8872.

The board started to plan for its early spring informational meeting with guest speakers. Transportation and the metropolitan water system are possible topics. The board meets quarterly.

Respectfully submitted,
Fran Schonenberg

League Links

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[LWV Michigan](#)

[LWV United States](#)

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