

Subj: **LWVGP Voter: September 2015**  
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 To: [league@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org](mailto:league@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org)

Candidate Forums: GP Park Tues 9/29 & GP Shores Thurs 10/1

# Grosse Pointe *VOTER*

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

## Calendar

### *Candidate Forums:*

#### **Tues, Sept 29th**

**7:30 pm**  
**GP Park** Candidate Forum  
 Municipal Building, in the Courtroom  
 15115 E Jefferson  
 GP Park, 48230

#### **Thurs, Oct 1st**

**7:30 pm**  
**GP Shores** Candidate Forum  
 Neighborhood Club  
 17150 Waterloo St  
 GP, 48230

### **GP League activities for LWV's three studies:**

#### **Wed, Oct 21**

**7:00 pm**  
**"Redistricting in Michigan"**  
 GP War Memorial  
 32 Lake Shore Rd, GPF  
 Speaker: Judy Karandjeff, LWV-MI

#### **Thurs, Oct 29**

**7:00 pm**  
**"Amending the Constitution"**  
 LWVGP Membership Consensus Meeting  
 Home of Fran S  
 264 McMillan Rd, GPF

#### **Thurs, Nov 12**

**7:00 pm**  
**"Money in Politics"**  
 GP United Methodist Church  
 211 Moross Rd, GPF  
 Speaker: Rich Robinson, [Michigan Campaign Finance Network](#)  
 (See next month's *Voter* for additional details)

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

## *September 2015*

### **Presidents' Letter**

Our kickoff meeting featuring **Stephen Henderson** was a grand success, thanks to organizers Jan Wells, Aphie Roumell and Mary Morshead, who brought us a wonderful partner, the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church Alliance. The venue and refreshments were excellent, and the large audience was attentive and had many questions for Mr. Henderson, who challenged us to think what small personal thing we could do to improve our favorite Detroit neighborhood.

On **Tuesday, September 29**, a candidate forum for **GP Park** officials will be at its city offices at 7:30, and a forum for **GP Shores** will be on **Thursday, October 1** at the Neighborhood Club. Remind your friends in these communities of this opportunity to ask questions directly of the candidates. Tom Wells is creating an online voter guide for these races on [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org).

**October 21** our League is sponsoring a meeting at the Grosse Pointe War Memorial entitled "**Redistricting in Michigan: Should Politicians Choose Their Voters?**" LWV-Michigan has joined with other state-wide organizations to study methods used around the country to draw congressional and state legislature voting districts after each census. In Michigan the party in power at the time draws the districts, and this method, combined with term limits, is a recipe for inaction on controversial issues, especially in the state legislature.

We are fortunate to have **Judy Karandjeff, President, LWV-Michigan**, present this program designed to make citizens more aware of the issue and what options there might be. If a ballot proposal comes to the voters, it will be important that there is a cadre of citizens who understand the issue, so bring your friends - the more attendees the better!

As a local League we have our **Chinese dinner**, a program planning meeting where we review LWV's national and state positions. This year we have been asked to study two issues which impact the national positions: "**Money in Politics**" and "**The League and a Constitutional Convention**". We now have the questions for the latter consensus, which we will take on **October 29**.

I am so proud of our League as we challenge ourselves and our neighbors

## Candidate Forums for the Pointes Have Been Set

Two candidate forums have been booked as there are 2 cities with contested municipal races: Grosse Pointe Park and Grosse Pointe Shores. The candidates from the other Grosse Pointe cities and Harper Woods are not being contested.

### **GROSSE POINTE PARK**

**Tues, September 29th**

**7:30 pm**

**Municipal Building, in the Courtroom  
15115 E Jefferson  
Grosse Pointe Park, MI 48230**

The candidates who filed for Council are: Daniel E. Clark, Barbara Detwiler, John Chouinard, Edward V. Keelean, and William P. Shield, Jr. The mayoral candidate, Robert Denner, is running uncontested.

### **GROSSE POINTE SHORES**

**Thurs, October 1st**

**7:30 pm**

**Neighborhood Club  
17150 Waterloo St  
Grosse Pointe, MI 48230**

The candidates for the Shores are: Paul Thursam, Robert Gesell, Douglas Kucyk, Rebecca Booth, and Tina Ellis. The mayoral candidate, Ted Kedzierski, is running uncontested.

Both forums will have audience-generated questions with time for each candidate to give their responses. The audience will also be able to listen to each candidate's opening and closing statements.

The Grosse Pointe War Memorial will film each forum. These films will be shown on the War Memorial's local channel at a future date.

## Lake Erie Water Quality

Our League belongs to a network of Leagues which works on issues concerning Lake Erie. They meet quarterly. Gordon Morlan, our Natural Resources Chair, can give you more information about this group. You can contact him at [NaturalResourceChair@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org](mailto:NaturalResourceChair@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org). Rotary International is holding a conference focusing on western Lake Erie on October 23-24 in Toledo. You may register or get more information at [rotarylakeerieconference.org](http://rotarylakeerieconference.org).

## LWV - Macomb County Voter Services

LWV - Macomb County has scheduled 3 opportunities for its citizens to learn more about "Redistricting in Michigan". Presentations are set for:

**Thursday, Oct. 15, 7 p.m.**

South Branch of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library

to stay informed about issues which often seem distant but really do affect us all. Keep up the good work!

Ann Nicholson,  
Presidential Team

## Amending the Constitution Consensus Meeting: Calling All Members!

Our League will be taking consensus on "Amending the Constitution"

**Thursday, October 29**

**Home of Fran S.  
264 McMillan, GPF  
7:00 p.m.**

To read the consensus questions and a brief pro and con for each question, click [forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study](http://forum.lwv.org/category/member-resources/our-work/constitutional-amendment-study).

Our answers will be submitted to the national committee which will tally answers from around the country to arrive at a position on this topic.

Please let Jan Wells at [program@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org](mailto:program@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org) know if you plan to attend so that there are sufficient handouts.

## New Members Meeting

Membership Vice President Wilhelmina Giblin held a new member get together on Wednesday, September 2.

New members Kathy Poore and Wendy Michalski joined Mary Zahler, Jan Wells, Mary Vitolins and Carol Todd to share personal backgrounds and stories about why they joined the League.

Thank you, Wilhelmina, for the refreshments and for organizing such an enjoyable format for the evening.

## Membership Matters: Last Call for Membership Renewal

*Membership Dues Reminder*

There are a handful of members who have not yet paid their dues. If you want your name in the Directory please send a check payable to LWVGP for \$60 to:

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

Let's keep democracy working!

Thank you.  
Wilhelmina Giblin, Co-Director, Membership

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

## National Voter Registration Day: September 22nd!

In honor of National Voter Registration Day Mary Zahler wrote an excellent opinion piece on the importance of voting and how to register for the first time or update your registration. Be sure to check it out in the September 17 edition of the [Grosse Pointe News](#) (subscription required).



35679 S. Gratiot, Clinton Twp.

Speaker: *Betsy Cushman, President of the League of Women Voters of Dearborn - Dearborn Heights*

#### Thursday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m.

North Branch of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library  
16800 24 Mile Rd., Macomb Twp.

Speaker: *Betsy Cushman, President of the League of Women Voters of Dearborn - Dearborn Heights*

#### Thursday, Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Main Branch of the Clinton-Macomb Public Library  
40900 Romeo Plank, Clinton Twp.

Speaker: *Kathy Ling, League of Women Voters Michigan Advocacy Committee*

Contact [lwvmacomb@gmail.com](mailto:lwvmacomb@gmail.com) for additional information or to join the effort to bring Voter Services and Education to Macomb County.

And check out: [www.facebook.com/lwvmacombcounty](https://www.facebook.com/lwvmacombcounty)

## LWVGP Financial Review

Our bylaws require an annual review of the accounts to determine if we are following standard accounting procedures and that bills have been paid in accordance with the budget and the instructions of the Board. Mary Zahler performed this review in September and is happy to report to the membership that our books are in excellent order.

## Our Banner is Missing!

Please check your closets and basements for the large banner which we use to promote the League during candidate forums. It looks great on TV! If you know where it is please contact Carol Todd, Vice President for Voter Services at [voter\\_service@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org](mailto:voter_service@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org).

*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.*



[Forward email](#)

## LWVGP's Special Night with DFP's Stephen Henderson

The September 16 "kick off" meeting by our League with **Stephen Henderson** of *The Detroit Free Press* was an unqualified success. Mr. Henderson provided us with an insightful view of the challenges Detroiters face in trying to improve their neighborhoods. Multi-generational poverty, unreliable public transportation, extraordinary rates of incarceration and poor schools defeat the aspirations of the working poor and middle class. He answered the many questions by our audience with meaningful, thoughtful and well developed answers. There were over 100 very attentive people attending this meeting, and we are so grateful to the Alliance group at the Grosse Pointe Unitarian Church for their wonderful hospitality and their co-sponsorship of this event.



*Judy Morlan, Aphie Roumell, Stephen Henderson & Jan Wells*

Aphie Roumell,  
Program Co-Chair

## Butterfly Bench

Our Butterfly Bench enjoyed a summer stay at The Neighborhood Club entryway where many people had a chance to admire it and read about the League sponsorship. The benches were auctioned off on September 17, and our own George McMullen had the winning bid for our beautiful bench. He is still contemplating where it will go next.



## 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](#)



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