

From: League of Women Voters Grosse Pointe <lwvvp.director.publicity@gmail.com>

To: league <league@grossepointe.mi.lwvnet.org>

Subject: Grosse Pointe VOTER

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GROSSE POINTE



VOTER

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

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March/April

2012

From the Prez...

There are many announcements to make and some have related articles in this issue of the Voter.

March is Women's History Month!

In 1918, Michigan voters provided women of their state with total suffrage. The suffrage cause had been a long and hard battle. Passage of the suffrage amendment set the stage for the creation of the citizen-oriented League of Women Voters. The suffrage movement moved into its next phase - its plan to improve the electorate by providing citizen education and informing voters of their choices. (From www.lwvmi.org)

Congratulations to the Girl Scouts celebrating their 100 year anniversary!

Redistricting Consensus meeting - (From testimony before the Michigan House Redistricting and Elections Committee 18 May 2011, by Susan Smith, President LWVMI):

"On behalf the Michigan Redistricting Collaborative, thank you for the opportunity to testify today regarding the need for a transparent and open redistricting process.... the Michigan Redistricting Collaborative is a coalition of non-profits from all segments of the community, including business, labor and public interest, believes that redistricting must be more transparent and open, with more involvement from the public. More than 35 organizations are members of the Collaborative, working together because we all believe that voters should

New Members



Please join me in welcoming the following new member to our League:

Barbara A. Powell
1152 Nottingham
Grosse Pointe Park
MI 48230
313.331.1803

Do add the above information to your Membership Directory and look for Barbara Powell at upcoming meetings and events. Thanks to Sharon Ruggioli, Christina Schlitt and Mary Zahler for giving me the names of prospects recently. In the last few weeks we have sent a letter and LWV information to five individuals we hope to interest in joining our League. Please join in our membership effort by giving me the names and contact information for additional prospects.

Jo Ann G. Kelly, Membership Director

Save the Date! **Annual Breakfast Meeting**

SATURDAY, 5 May, 2012
LOCHMOOR CLUB,
GROSSE POINTE WOODS

The featured speaker will be Susan Smith, President of the League of Women Voters Michigan. Sue will discuss LWV advocacy efforts based on positions at all League levels.

Click to print the
[RSVP FORM](#)

Board of Directors Meeting

choose their elected officials, not the other way around. Unfortunately, Michigan, unlike other states, does not have a history of providing opportunities for public input on redistricting plans. Iowa, for example, has finished its congressional and legislative redistricting exercise, following public meetings and input - and the plan adopted had widespread support from Republicans and Democrats."

The opportunity for transparency in the redistricting process for the 2010 census has passed, but the League's study is focused on changing the process now for the redistricting efforts after the 2020 census. LWVGP has held several meetings to educate our membership on the history and the process by which Michigan determines the voting districts. We now will hold a meeting to answer the consensus questions for the LWVMI study.

A review of the material and the consensus questions are linked for you in Susan's article. Please print the questions and bring them to the meeting. Susan Leithauser-Yee will be leading the Redistricting consensus meeting-Saturday, 31 March, noon at City Kitchen. Make reservations to Peggy Hickey by the 28th.

Budget-membership Review for the Annual Meeting

The Budget Committee (Chair, Connie Frey; members Fran Schonenberg, Alice Galinski and as Ex-Officio Mary Zahler) have worked diligently to prepare a budget for the 2012-13 fiscal year. It is your duty as a member of LWVGP to approve the budget at the Annual Meeting (Saturday, 5 May - see the announcement and reservation form.) Please review the budget included in this newsletter and direct comments and/or questions to Chairperson, Connie Frey.

Nomination Committee Slate for Membership to Review

Aphie Roumell as chairperson has submitted the following slate of Board candidates for election at the Annual Meeting in May also:

VP Voter Services: Susan Leithauser-Yee
Director Voter Service: Flo Rhodes
Treasurer: Mary Zahler
VP Administration: Ann Nicholson
Vice-President-Program: Jan Wells
Director-Publicity/Voter Editor: Eboni Lamar

Thank you to all of the members of the Nominating Committee and thank you to the LWVGP Members that have graciously accepted the nomination for the board positions.

Annual meeting is Saturday, 5 May at Lochmoor Club. Please make reservations with Peggy Hickey. See the related form.

In League,
Christina Schlitt

Redistricting Consensus Meeting

On Saturday, March 31 at 12:30, a group of Grosse Pointe League members will meet at the City Kitchen (16844 Kercheval) to review, discuss and respond to consensus questions about the redistricting process. The objective of this process is to assist the League in establishing a position that represents the opinions of League members.

Redistricting methods are important because the location of district lines can consolidate or break up like-minded voting blocks, among other reasons.

The Board will not meet in April. Please see the February meeting minutes below.

Board elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on May 5.

Click for [February Board Meeting Minutes](#)

Member Spotlight

Honored for
15 years of service
to the
Beaumont Hospital
Grosse Pointe



Congratulations Martha!!

The Clean Air Promise

The Clean Air Promise campaign is a national effort to protect children and families from dangerous air pollution by obtaining commitments from our leaders to safeguard the Clean Air Act and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) enforcement authority.

Go to [The Clean Air Promise](#) and show your support for clean air and public health!

EQUAL PAY DAY Event

Redistricting background information and consensus questions are available on the State of Michigan League website:
http://www.lwvmi.org/member/mem_studies.html

The multiple choice questions address themes such as:

- What process requirements would best facilitate transparency and public participation?
- Who should lead the redistricting process?
- What criteria are most/least important?

Please contact Peggy Hickey mahdwh@aol.com to register or Susan Leithauser-Yee leityee@comcast.net for more information.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Please see background information and the full set of questions in the article below.

Redistricting Consensus: Background and Materials

Although the Michigan maps have been drawn and we must accept them, the redistricting issue is still very much alive. We cannot afford to wait until the 2021 cycle is at hand before we advocate for reform. The Michigan Redistricting Collaborative, of which LWVMI is a member, was instrumental in educating the public about the many problems with the system in 2011 and is prepared to continue reform efforts. They look forward to the completion of this study and anticipate that our position will be a significant help as they draft a reform proposal and that we will be active in a campaign to achieve our goals.

I. History

Starting with the premise that redistricting is critical to a representative democracy, the problem with the redistricting process in Michigan is that the current system gives control to the political entities in power. They can freely base decisions solely upon a political party's political interests. This has resulted in a lack of openness, citizen participation or fairness that the LWVMI could and did address under the LWVUS position paper. Partisanship and self-serving result in distorted plans produced by the majority parties in the legislature - past and present - evidence that the entire process should be reformed.

MI Public Act 221 of 1999, Congressional Redistricting Act, established guidelines for drawing Michigan's congressional districts. The guidelines comprise provisions for strict population equity, upholding the Voting Rights Act, preserving political boundaries, contiguity, compactness, single-member districts, and numbering districts. Likewise P.A. 463 of 1996 established guidelines for drawing Michigan's legislative districts and conferred jurisdiction on the Michigan Supreme Court to review redistricting plans for compliance with those guidelines, which comprise provisions for a maximum 10 percent total population variance (from maximum to minimum), upholding precedents related to the Voting Rights Act, preserving political boundaries, contiguity, compactness, and single-member districts. However, these provisions do not bind the state legislature because with gubernatorial approval, it can change state statutes. When the state legislature approves a redistricting plan, a different legislature can pass a new statute that supersedes the old one. In 2011, there was no legislation describing the criteria used by the legislature. The actual maps are now available on the Secretary of State's site at... [\(Read more\)](#)

Click for [REDISTRICTING CONSENSUS QUESTIONS](#)

**Equal Pay Day
Rotunda, State Capitol
Tuesday, April 17
Noon to 1:00 p.m.**

In 2010, the gender wage gap narrowed slightly. The ratio of women's and men's median annual earnings reached almost 77 cents on the dollar for full-time year-round workers. In Michigan, a package of legislation has been introduced in the House and Senate to change this inequity.

Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into the year a woman must work, on average, to earn as much as a man earned the previous year. (Tuesday is the day on which women's wages catch up to men's wages from the previous week.) Because women earn less, on average, than men, they must work longer for the same amount of pay. The wage gap is even greater for most women of color.

Red is worn on this day as a symbol of how far women and minorities are "in the red" with their pay. For more information on pay equity, see <http://www.pay-equity.org/>

Sponsoring Organizations

- AARP
- American Association of University Women of Michigan
- American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan
- Business and Professional Women, Michigan Federation
- Coalition of Labor Union Women, Metro Detroit Chapter
- Detroit Branch NAACP

Year-End Programs

Saturday, 31 March 2012, Noon til 3:00	City Kitchen, Lower Level, 16844 Kercheval in the Village	Susan Leithauser-Yee	Redistricting Consensus-LWVMI Position
Wednesday, 11 April 2010-7:00-8:30pm	Central Library	Christina Schlitt	LWVGP Board Meeting
April, 2012	TBD	JudyMorlan/Fran Schoenenberg	Environmental: It's not easy being green!"
Saturday, 5 May, 2012	Lochmoor Country Club	Jan Wells/Christina Schlitt/Peggy Hickey	Annual Meeting (Business Meeting 3 of 3)
June, 2012	TBD	Christina Schlitt	Joint Board Meeting
8-12 June, 2012	Washington, D.C.	Christina Schlitt	LWVUS National Convention

LWVMI focus on: 1. Redistricting/new study, 2. Convienent Voting, 3. Fair and Impartial Courts

Revised March 2012

Proposed 2012-2013 Budget

In accordance with the LWVGP bylaws, the LWVGP budget for the next League year must be provided to the membership at no fewer than 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Please see the proposed budget below.

**BUDGET 2012-13
Draft 3-18-12**

	Budget 2010/11	Actual 2010/11	Budget 2011/12	Actual TD 2011/12	Budget 2012/13
INCOME					
Fund Raising					
Contributions Added to Dues	1,000.00	740.00	310.00	370.00	500.00
Finance Drive		0.00	450.00	0.00	500.00
Memorials	0.00	310.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Mum Sale	1,200.00	1,077.00	1,100.00	1,183.00	1,150.00
Event /Other		2,925.00	1,200.00	0.00	0.00
Total Fund Raising	2,200.00	5,052.00	3,110.00	1,603.00	2,200.00

Lansing Association for Human Rights	Ed Fund/Educational Activities					
League of Women Voters of Michigan	Website	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	200.00
Michigan American Council on Education Network for Women	Position Support	100.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Michigan National Organization for Women	Program Materials	150.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Michigan Women's Forum	Public Fora	300.00	0.00	125.00	0.00	125.00
Michigan Women's Foundation	Voter Service Info	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Michigan's Women's Historical Center and Hall of Fame	Your Gov't Officials	500.00	0.00	500.00	487.00	500.00
Mothinger Justice	Finance Drive	250.00	0.00	300.00	88.00	250.00
National Council of Jewish Women, Greater Detroit Section	PMP	652.25	764.78	690.00	690.00	671.00
Pay Equity Network	Educ. Activities (R&W*)	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	890.00	1,600.00
SMG Strategies	Total Ed Fund/Ed Activities	4,952.25	764.78	1,765.00	2,355.00	3,496.00
Southern Oakland County NAACP	Dues					
The Jean Ledwith King Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan	Individuals (87)	6,960.00	5,156.20	5,340.00	2,820.00	5,220.00
Women's Center of Greater Lansing	Families (13)	180.00	505.00	420.00	120.00	390.00
Women's Resource Center of Grand Rapids	Total Dues	7,140.00	5,601.20	5,760.00	2,940.00	5,610.00
Women Lawyers Association of Michigan	Events					
3/2012	Annual Meeting			0.00	0	0.00
	Holiday Party		1,289.00	1,500.00	1,327.00	1,300.00
	Chinese Dinner		378.00	420.00	334.00	400.00
	Annual Meeting	3,000.00	880.00	1,100.00	0.00	1,050.00
	Total Events	3,000.00	2,547.00	3,020.00	1,661.00	2,750.00
	Miscellaneous	10.00	0.00	10.00	400.00	10.00
	Accruals					
	national/state	700.00	700.00	1,500.00	1500.00	700.00
	prev.yr deposits, dues					
	Total Accruals	700.00	700.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	700.00
	Interest	250.00	184.02	200.00	0.00	78.00

League Links

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INCOME	15,752.25	14,849.00	15,365.00	10,459.00	14,844.00
Ed Fund (pass thru)	1,200.00	3,660.00	1,000.00	825.00	1,000.00
Withdraw From Reserves	3,630.75		0.00		0.00
INCOME (with EF pass thru)	20,083.00	18,509.00	16,365.00	11,284.00	15,844.00
Payment in Kind	0.00	462.79	0.00	198.00	0.00
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual TD	Budget
	2010/11	2010/11	2011/12	2011/12	2012/13
EXPENSES					

Board & Administrative

Admin VP	75.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Board Tools	25.00	0.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Membership	200.00	448.93	200.00	243.94	350.00
Misc Committee	13.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
President	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Program VP	50.00	0.00	115.00	0.00	150.00
Publicity	13.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Secretary	25.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Treasurer	44.00	0.00	50.00	44.00	45.00
Unit Meetings	13.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Voter Services VP	25.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	30.00
Total Board & Admin	533.00	448.93	590.00	312.94	775.00

Delegates

Nat'l Convention	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	1,000.00
State Convention	1,500.00	1,296.52	700.00	700.00	1,400.00
Workshops	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Total Delegates	3,100.00	2,796.52	3,300.00	3,300.00	2,500.00

Events

Fall Meeting		108.29	200.00	108.29	115.00
Holiday Event		87.09	1,350.00	1,008.18	1,100.00
Chinese Dinner		248.00	350.00	265.85	300.00
Annual Meeting		663.83	1,000.00		900.00
Total Events	3,000.00	2,174.02	2,900.00	1,382.32	2,415.00

Educational Activities

*Running and Winning	3,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,600.00
Web Page	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
Position Support	100.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Program Materials	150.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	100.00
Public Fora	0.00	125.00	125.00	0.00	125.00
Voter Service Info	0.00	0.00	25.00	0.00	25.00
Your Gov't Officials	500.00	0.00	500.00	487.00	500.00
Total Ed. Activities	3,950.00	325.00	975.00	687.00	2,575.00

Fund Raising

Mum Sale	700.00	505.00	500.00	510.00	550.00
Event / Other		1,092.54	500.00	0.00	0.00
Finance Drive	250.00	338.10	300.00	88.00	250.00
Total Fund Raising	950.00	1,935.64	1,300.00	598.00	800.00

League Support

DMA	120.00	109.00	103.00	94.50	93.50
Lake Erie Basin Committee					30.00
LWVMI PMP	2,341.00	2,163.00	1,932.00	1,932.00	1,963.50

LWVUS PMP	2,609.00	3,059.00	2,760.00	2,760.00	2685.00
Total League Support	5,070.00	5,331.00	4,795.00	4,786.50	4,772.00
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual TD	Budget
	2010/11	2010/11	2011/12	2011/12	2012/13
NewsletterCommunication					
Postage	400.00	200.00		3.20	90.00
Supplies	100.00	22.99		75.70	10.00
Copying	900.00	644.17		75.69	80.00
GP Voter- Electronic	0.00			126.00	125.00
Total Newsletter	1,400.00	867.16	800.00	280.59	305.00
Operating Costs					
Annual MeetingReport	125.00	83.13	70.00	0.00	110.00
Audit	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00
Bank Fees & Checks	35.00	40.76	25.00	0	25.00
Meetings/Hot Topics	50.00		100.00	0.00	50.00
Historical Society	100.00	100.00	100.00	0	0.00
GP Chamber	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00	75.00
Insurance	85.00	78.00	70.00	72.10	75.00
Little Blue Book	100.00	111.50	100.00	115.50	110.00
Postage Permit	200.00	185.00	0.00	0	0.00
War Memorial	50.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
Total Operating Costs	870.00	723.39	640.00	312.60	545.00
Miscellaneous	10.00	0.00	65.00	65.00	79.00
Interest (reinvested in CD)		184.02		28.21	78.00
EXPENSES	18,883.00	14,601.66	15,365.00	11,724.95	14,844.00
Ed Fund (pass thru)	1,200.00	3,305.00	1,000.00	875.00	1,000.00
EXPENSES (with EF pass thru)	20,083.00	17,906.66	16,365.00	12,599.95	15,844.00

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