



League of Women Voters - Lansing Area



CAPITOL VOTER

DECEMBER 2016

SAVE THE DATES!

The League is planning two events in January to welcome members and to establish four issue groups that will explore League positions and determine possibilities for future local action. Look for more details in the January *Capitol Voter*.

- **January 11, 5-7 p.m.** at Jimmy's Pub in East Lansing - An informal gathering for League members.
- **January 24, 11:30-1 p.m.**, at Hall of Fame Café in East Lansing - ***What can you do?*** -- Action possibilities for the League and its members.

CAPITOL VOTER HIGHLIGHTS

JACKSON UNIT NEWS

BOOK GROUP NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE
CO-PRESIDENTS

POLL OBSERVATION

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THE
CO-PRESIDENTS

UPDATE

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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LWV OPPOSES VOTER ID LAWS

NEWS FROM THE JACKSON UNIT



As part of an effort to gain new members, the group recently proposed an adaptation of the Lansing Area's Dues Assistance Policy. They will be gathering together this week for a social luncheon to celebrate the hard work of the membership on voter service activities.

last thirteen Presidents. The book group is tentatively scheduled to meet at **10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 17** at Grand Traverse Pie Company.

All books are available at both Schulers' Book Stores. Contact Beth Moore (mooreeee@msu.edu) if you'd like more information.

A LWV MEMBERSHIP AS A GIFT

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS



As this important election year comes to an end, we are very grateful for:

- The dedication and hard work of so many League members during all of LWVLA's voter service activities.
- The PAVP volunteers who took their roles so seriously.
- The generous financial contributions from many members.
- The enthusiastic new members that have joined in recent months.
- The unwavering support and dedication of the LWVLA board.

We wish you all a joyous and peaceful holiday season.

Beth Moore & Camilla Davis

LEAGUE MEMBERS OBSERVE VOTING PRECINCTS



"Really, this was a front row seat on our democratic process at the grass-roots level."-Margo Smith

Thirty-three members were observers at 13 precincts in Lansing and 4 in East Lansing as part of the LWVMI Public Advocacy Voter Protection Project. Some of the findings:



The gift of a League membership is perfect for everyone. Give the opportunity to support the democratic process.

[Click here](#) to go to the LWVLA website.

DONATE TO LWVLA OR PAY DUES ON-LINE!

To donate to LWVLA or pay dues using a credit card or Pay Pal.

go to the [LWVLA](#) web site and click on either

Donate or **Join** in the list of options on the left side of the page.

Follow the directions for a quick and easy transaction.

- Observers felt that the poll workers were very well trained and very eager to help voters.
- There are persistent problems in some precincts with the tabulators - a national problem with aging equipment.
- Provisional ballots were used by some voters and at times caused confusion.
- There is an ongoing problem, especially in student precincts, with people not knowing where they are registered to vote.
- There were long waiting times in some precincts - the use of just one electronic poll book caused delays in the verification process.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

These people have joined the League since the beginning of November:

East Lansing: Nakia White, Erin Graham, Melissa Doss, Jessy Gregg,

Haslett: James Coty, Carol Jacob

Lansing: Aimee Khaled, Abby Frazier, Kate Showronek

Bath: Kathleen Oberst,

Okemos: Patricia Sorenson

DeWitt: Laura and Bill Colville

Jackson: Jane Volk, Arme Thompson, Jann Krupa, Dee Reed

Norton Shores: Carolyn and Stephen Madden

We also welcome several new members who have joined (or re-joined) as part of a household membership: Juan Alvarez, Howard

PAGE



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QUICK LINKS

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[LWVMI WEB SITE](#)

[LWVUS WEB SITE](#)

[LWVLMR**](#)

****LWVLA is a member of the LWV - Lake**

Michigan Region. Click on LWVLMR for an update of the organization's initiatives.

Pizzo, Ron Callen, Gil White, David Rovner, Frank Rosenbaum

LOOKING BACK ON THE ELECTION SEASON

Our League markedly expanded its efforts during 2016 to register and educate voters and to encourage a greater level of citizen participation. Marilyn Wilson provided outstanding leadership for an active Voter Service committee and 55 League members were involved with these efforts. Here are a few highlights:

- Printed and distributed voter guides in Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties
- Provided VOTE411 on-line coverage for all the races in Clinton, Eaton, Ingham and Jackson Counties - 327 candidates for November races. Members widely promoted this resource.
- Sponsored 3 candidate forums
- Registered approximately 770 new voters as part of coordinated registration drives with MSU, LCC, etc.

The efforts of all League members made this voter education outreach so successful. There are a few people who need special recognition:

- Judy Karandjeff, Patience Drake-Rosenbaum and Mary Scoblic for their tremendous work with VOTE411
- Terry Link for printing 600 VOTE411 bookmarks and standing on campus for a few hours encouraging MSU students to vote

- The 25 people who distributed voter guides; Sherlyn Hogenson for organizing the list and the Wilson household for serving as the distribution point.

LEAGUE OPPOSES VOTER ID LAWS



The League of Women Voters of Michigan announced opposition to bills (HB 6066-68) moving quickly through the legislature during this "lame duck" session. Under the new bills, a registered voter without a valid photo ID could vote a provisional ballot, not fill out the present affidavit. That ballot would be counted only if the voter goes to the clerk's office within 10 days with a valid ID. What can you do: The bill has passed the House. Email or call your senator to express your views, as an individual, on this bill. If it reaches the governor's desk, calls and email will be especially important.

LEAGUE BOOK DAYS A SUCCESS



The League treasury increased by more than \$500 in November, thanks to members and friends who shopped for books and gifts at the two Schuler's Book Stores.