



The Voter

A publication of
Dearborn and Dearborn Heights
League of Women Voters

120 N. Military Dearborn, MI 48124 313-278-6476 www.lwvddh.org



June 2013

After the right to vote was established for American women in 1920, the League of Women Voters worked to inform the influx of new voters. LWV has since become a resource for ALL voters. Men and women with diverse backgrounds and viewpoints rely on our non-partisan candidate guides and forums as well as our well-studied positions on local, state and national issues.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – MARY BUGEIA

This month brings to an end my four years of serving as your President. In some ways it seems like a long time - and in other ways I wonder where the time went. Along with some fantastic board members and committee chairs we have been busy and accomplished a great deal.

Our star performer has been Betsy Cushman who thankfully enjoys gathering information about candidates and putting together wonderful Voter Guides and Who's Who of Elected Officials. During the past few years she mastered the unique data collection system of VOTE 411.org. and became coach to others.

Then came Donald Mack, a new member with computer and internet savvy who was able to make all the VOTE 411 data available on our website. We appreciate the way he transformed our website base into a user friendly site to be proud of.

Patti Mack, cheerfully took over communications and publishing our newsletter the VOTER. She developed it into an attractive document of timely, valuable information, and promoted distribution via email in addition to regular mail. We really appreciate her efforts in nudging league members to submit reports and articles for the publication.

Mary Jo Durivage was our recording secretary who kept excellent records of our meetings. Because of her resources as a librarian, she often amazed us with current news and events happening in our region. Mary Jo took leadership in planning a meeting to celebrate the 93rd anniversary of LWVUS, focusing on suffragette history. She brought our attention to a film called "The Invisible War" making us aware of sexual assaults in the military.

In addition to being our remarkable Treasurer -Barbara Adams championed the student voter registration project and gained a grant from LWVUS to initiate the process. The exciting project involved many members and resulted in registering almost two thousand students over two years. In the process we increased awareness of our organization within the educational institutions and within the community at large.

Judy Carty, a past president, kept us on track with bylaws and procedural documents. Joe Borrajo as observer of city government, brought significant issues to our attention. Judy Patrick directed the Fund Raising campaigns which were so essential to the survival of our organization. Carolyn Buell and Chris Sullivan- Rathwell covered membership records.

In addition to our Board members we have had people working Off the Board to represent us in community efforts. Such persons are Agnes Dobronski and Janice Berry keeping our presence known as a Unit at the Henry Ford Village Residences. Anthony Perry, HFCC Dean of Political Science, has kept our League involved in Civic conferences at the community college. And Barbara Goryca continues to serve on the Dearborn Heights Watershed Commission representing League environmental concerns.

I thank each of the Board Members for their efforts to make this an organization to be proud of. I am especially grateful for their efforts to pick up many tasks that I was unable to fulfill during the illness and eventual death of my husband. I thank each of them for their kindness and understanding during a very stressful time in my life.

Now, I am ready to turn over the leadership to Betsy Cushman who has been my steadfast assistant. I look forward to members coming to our annual meeting on June 8th, to officially elect Betsy as our next President.

MEMBERSHIP

Open to any U.S. citizen.
Dues are \$60 per year payable
July 1st to: **LWVDDH.**

MEETINGS

The League Office and most local meetings are held at Christ Episcopal Church
120 N. Military at Cherry Hill,
Dearborn, MI.

The church is handicap accessible with elevator and an outdoor ramp.

LEAGUE OFFICE

120 N. Military
Dearborn, MI 48124
313.278.6476

Email: info@lwvddh.org

Web: www.lwvddh.org

Mary Bugeia, President,
313.562.7524

Mary Jo Durivage, Secretary
Barbara Adams, Treasurer
Carolyn Buell, Membership
313.274.4811

Chris Sullivan-Rathwell, Events
313.563.4586

Patti Mack, Editor
313.278.4376

LWV Michigan

517.484.5383
www.lwvmi.org

LWV-US

1.202.429.1965
www.lwv.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The LWV, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of people in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

“**The Voter Newsletter**” is included in membership. Others can subscribe for \$10 per year. We are also transitioning to an email alert for those who opt out of the printed newsletter. Contact us at 313-278-6476 or info@lwvddh.org to request an email or printed subscription



In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened that day by resolution of the Second Continental Congress in 1777. The United States Army also celebrates the *Army Birthday* on this Date; Congress adopted “the American continental army” after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, & 110 IS THE OFFICIAL STATUTE ON Flag Day; however, it is at the President’s discretion to officially proclaim the observance. One June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first (and only) U. S. State to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. New York Statues designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day.

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is at Fairfield, Washington. Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible exception of 1918, and celebrated the “Centennial” parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events.



THREE OAKS, MICHIGAN FLAG DAY PARADE JUNE 16, 2013 -3:00 PM

The nation’s Largest Flag Day Parade started in 1953 in Three Oaks, Michigan. In 2013, the Three Oaks Flag Day Parade is celebrating 61 years? The parade honors the American Flag, Veterans, Service Men and Women, the United States and Freedom. The parade averages over 100 units of Veterans, Color Guards, Musical Marching Units, Clowns, Equestrian Groups, Drill Teams, Antique Cars and Trucks, Drum & Bugle Corps and Antique Tractors all display and honor the American Flag in the grandest tradition that only this iconic parade has been exhibiting for six decades.

The village of Three Oaks is located in the southwest corner of Michigan, just miles from the shores of Lake Michigan and the Indiana border. The village was first settled by Henry Chamberlain in 1850. Mr. Chamberlain gave the small community its name in reference to three oak trees growing in a cluster within the village.

Three Oak’s hometown pride is evident during its Flag Day Celebration in June. The celebration and Flag Day Parade is the largest in the country.





Barb Adams is Recognized by LWV-MI

Barb Adams was recognized with the Bell Ringer Award at the LWV-Michigan Convention for her leadership as Project Coordinator for the Youth Voter Registration Project. In 2012, the LWV-DDH registered 878 high school students. This year, we registered 568. Thank you, Barb, and everyone who helped with this important service to our youth and to our democracy. In her spare time, Barb also serves as Treasurer, LWV-DDH.

REINVENTING MICHIGAN

Governor Snyder's Mobile Office

This summer, representatives of our office will visit locations across the state to conduct Mobile Office Hours. Staff will be available to answer questions, provide information and direction, as well as take suggestions in regard to current government issues affecting Michigan citizens, communities and businesses. "This is an excellent opportunity for citizens to ask questions and engage with representatives from my office. It is our goal to make government as accessible as possible, and I encourage anyone who is interested to visit our mobile office hours." – Gov. Snyder

For additional information call 517-335-7858 or visit www.michigan.gov/snyder.

Taylor Location
Pete's Place
12245 Telegraph Rd, Taylor
Date: Friday, June 7
Noon to 2 p.m.

Plymouth Location
Plymouth Coffee Bean
884 Penniman Ave., Plymouth
Date: Friday, June 7
3 p.m. to 5 p.m.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION

Make check payable to:

LWVDDH Education Fund
120 N. Military
Dearborn, MI 48124



**** Tax-deductible donations** are designated for educational publications and programs such as non-partisan voter guides, candidate forums and the annual publication of local, state and national elected officials (Who's Who). These non-partisan resources are essential to our community and appreciated by our voting population. These contributions are managed by the LWVDDH Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) organization.

LWV-US Leadership and Membership Workshop Attendees



Smiling Betsy Cushman and Judy Carty survived all the workshops and training at the LWV-Michigan Convention.

These two longtime Leaguers went to the first state convention they'd attended in many years. For Judy, it was in the 1990's when she last went. For Betsy, it was 20 years earlier – 1977. Much has changed but not the excellence of the information or the dedication and knowledge of the members. The best part was getting to know what Leagues all over the State are doing.

Lots of great ideas were presented and now the challenge will be to choose which ones we want to implement in Dearborn – Dearborn Heights. For example, one league who grew their membership quickly began a Book Club with the books (4 per year) tied into the national or state study. All generations were interested in the in-depth studies (and choice of books) of the League of Women Voters.

A few ideas presented at the LWV-US Leadership and Membership Workshop which Betsy and Judy attended.

1. Make the League more efficient, not more work.
2. Be flexible
3. Enjoy and benefit from all levels of League: National, State, Regional, and Local. We help each other become more efficient and more flexible. We accomplish more.

FOR THE GRADUATES ...

As the school year wraps up and the warm weather of the summer looms on the horizon, millions of Americans are starting a new chapter in their lives – graduation is a major achievement.

Along with graduation, many young adults will be moving to embark on the next step in their lives. The League of Women Voters is committed to helping these recent graduates be active and engaged members of their new communities – *make sure the graduates in your life register to vote.*

http://participate.lwv.org/c/10065/p/salsa/web/postcard/public/?postcard_KEY=220





With heavy hearts we offer our sincerest condolences to our President, Mary Bugeia, and her entire family on the passing of her husband, Joe Bugeia on May 13, 2013. Mary and Joe were married for 57 years and their family consisted of Daughter, Laura (Kevin) Weston, and Sons: Joseph D. and Andrew (Linda) Bugeia. Pure joy in Joe's life were his grandsons Karl and Erik Weston and Jacob Bugeia. Joe received his MBA from the University of Michigan ... Go Blue ... and he was a proud employee of Ford Motor Company for 39 years working in Human Resources. He was a well-known figure around Dearborn as he had served as Dearborn Recreation Commissioner, Coach Emeritus Tailgators Softball Team, Loyal fan of U of M Football and Detroit Red Wings hockey and a member of the Ford Restorers Club. He will be missed by all who knew him.

A Better Place

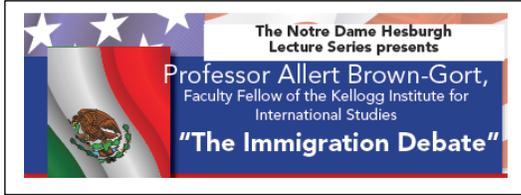
*Joe's in a better place right now
Than he's ever been before;
All pain is gone; he's now at rest;
Nothing troubles him anymore.
It's we who feel the burden of
Our sadness and our grief;
We have to cry, to mourn our loss,
Before we get relief.
We know we'll reconnect with him
At the end of each life's road;
We'll see his cherished face again
When we release our earthly load.*

*By Joanna Fuchs
With poetic license by Patti Mack*

Super-Leaguers

League of Women Voters Ladies Tee-Shirts are being demonstrated and sold by the LWV-Ann Arbor at the LWV-Michigan Convention. It looks like Superman but it says LWV on the front and Defender of Democracy on the back. <http://lwvannarbor.org/>





Allert Brown-Gort, a faculty fellow of the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame, and a senior research fellow at the Institute for Work and the Economy, will present **“The Immigration Debate,” Thursday, June 6, 2013** at Marygrove College. This Free Lecture is sponsored by Marygrove and the Notre Dame Club of Detroit.

“The Immigration Debate”

- DATE:** Thursday, June 6, 2013
- TIME:** Reception at 6 p.m.
Lecture at 7 p.m.
(Complimentary heavy hors d'oeuvres; cash bar)
- PLACE:** Marygrove College
8425 West McNichols
Detroit, MI 48221
- RSVP:** To Paul Cusick at
pjcusick@yahoo.com



Dear Friends:

It's difficult to put our thoughts into words, but we very much appreciate your kind and helpful sentiments, deeds and gestures shown at a time when this outpouring of concern mean so much. Your words and action were very comforting to me and my family ... and of course, the huge Peace Lilly plant will help remind me of Joe as well as my LWVDDH buddies. I am very grateful for the friendship that we share.

Sincerely,
Mary Bugeia



You're Invited

Please join the **LWV Detroit Metro Area** for their Annual Meeting on **Saturday, June 22** at the **Fairlane Club** in Dearborn (Fireside Room).

- Arrive / Greet: 10:30 am
- Business: 11:00 am
- Lunch: 12:00 Noon
- Speaker: 12:30 pm
- Cost: \$25.00



Please make checks payable to LWV Detroit Metro Area and send luncheon reservation to:

Mary Bugeia
7 Cherry Hill Ct.
Dearborn, MI 48124

Thanksgiving is a day when we pause to give thanks for the things we have.



Memorial Day is a day when we pause to give thanks to the people who fought for the things we have.



After a year of operating with a minimal budget, the Dearborn Historical Museum may have more room to grow its programs during the 2013-2014 fiscal year.

Jack Tate, the museum's chief curator, proposed a budget of \$311,000 for the upcoming fiscal year to city officials at a budget hearing on May 15.

Tate said the museum is asking for a \$225,000 subsidy out of the city's general fund for the next five years. The museum also wants to draw \$30,000 out of the Lizzie Ross Fund for porch repairs, leaving nearly \$860,000 in the account. The Ross Fund was established through the city's sale of property to Andiamo Italian Steakhouse.

Tate said the museum is hoping to raise \$50,000 in grants during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition, he is projecting revenues for 2013-14 at \$124,865 through funding from memberships, special events, sales, and support from the Museum Guild. Expenditures for the museum are projected at \$295,588.

Tate also outlined the museum's five-year plan for the McFadden-Ross House, Gardner House, Commandant's Quarters and the administration building to the council. He said an audit by the Michigan State Historical Society shows that the museum should be able to raise at least one-third of its revenue in the next five years.

In order to do that, Tate said operations at the museum have been streamlined. He said the museum has two part-time employees and uses mostly volunteers and interns in the community. It is also supported by events organized by the Museum Guild.

Tate is particularly proud of the revamped partnership with Dearborn Public Schools. "We've already had 1,400 second graders come through the museum this year, and we still have eight more sessions to go," he said. "We are working with the elementary school teachers to make the program interesting while providing useful information required by the school's curriculum."

(McFadden Ross Home Continued)

The museum's Sports Legacy Exhibit that opened on April 6 has been visited by 150 patrons, and the annual banjo concert held during the third week in April had roughly 72 attendees, Tate said.

"I don't like to have a lot of pokers in the fire. The things we're doing, we're doing well, and I think the city and council recognize that fact," Tate said.

One of the museum's newest projects has been connecting with supporters online through its Facebook page, blog, and other digital media websites.

"We have 430 fans on Facebook, which is very promising," Tate said. "We're trying to take advantage of as many new methods of communication as we can."

The museum's budget for the current fiscal year is roughly of \$176,530, \$122,708 of which is covered by funds raised through memberships and donations.

The Dearborn City Council held a public hearing on the city's fiscal year 2014 budget at 6:30 p.m. on May 23 in the city council chambers at city hall. The public was invited to give comments and ask questions about the proposed budget at this hearing. The council was scheduled to adopt the proposed budget at a public meeting at 7 p.m. on May 28 in the city council chambers.

However, after 7 workshops, the City Council had an order of business prior to the meeting that resulted in an unpleasant surprise. City council pulled its capital project request for \$141,000 and instead of getting \$200,000 in 2013-14 from the general fund, the museums' funding was cut to \$59,000. Council balked because the improvement weren't scheduled to begin until the 2018-19 fiscal year and the museums have money in the Lizzie Ross Endowment Fund. Further studies will be made but Jack Tate has vowed to keep his five-year commitment to his duties.





League of Women Voters
Dearborn & Dearborn Heights
120 N. Military
Dearborn, MI 48124

Calendar of Events

Monday, June 3 – 6:30 pm

Detroit Vote 411

Thursday, June 6 – 7 pm

LWVDDH Board Meeting

Saturday, June 8 – 11 am

Habib Restaurant

LWVDDH Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 15 – 9 am

LWVDDH Board Orientation

Saturday, June 22 – 10:30 am

LWV Detroit Metro Area

Annual Meeting

