

League of Women Voters of the Copper Country

OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President	Barry Fink
1st Vice President	Linda Belote
2nd Vice President	Kristine Bradof
Treasurer	Mary Marchaterre
Secretary	Taryn Mason
Electoral Process	Faith Morrison
Director at Large	Barb Turuc

OFF-BOARD PORTFOLIOS

Education	Martha Sloan
Voter Editor	Linda Ott
Website Editor	Shellie Crisman

League of Women Voters
of the Copper Country

P.O. Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

www.lwvccmi.org
www.facebook.com/coppercountrylwv

2019 Report to the Community

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE COPPER COUNTRY



BARRY FINK
PRESIDENT

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League of Women Voters Nonpartisan but political

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. We do not oppose or support political parties or candidates.

Anyone over the age of 16, female or male, may become a voting member of the League of Women Voters.

Members of the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country receive the *Copper Country Voter* and *National Voter* newsletters, and the opportunity to learn about and influence local, state, and national issues.

LWV Observer Corps

One of the best ways to improve government is to “put it in the spotlight” by watching it. The Observer Corps serves our community by maintaining a presence at as many government meetings as possible. Becoming an observer is a perfect opportunity for someone to have an impact, simply by attending one meeting per month. Observers do not comment or speak in their role of observer.

Join the Observer Corps today!

In 2018-2019 League members observed:

- ⇒ Houghton County Board of Commissioners
- ⇒ Houghton-Portage School Board

2019-2020 Membership Form

YES, I want to join the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country (check one):

\$60 INDIVIDUAL \$ _____

\$90 HOUSEHOLD \$ _____

FREE STUDENT \$ _____

I wish to make a **CONTRIBUTION** to the League at this time (please fill in amount):

• General LWVCC \$ _____

• Kay La Rue Memorial Membership Fund \$ _____

• LWV Education Fund (tax deductible—must be a separate check) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

____ I wish to apply for a scholarship for membership

Name(s)

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Email

You can pay using PayPal on our website lwvccmi.org or make your check payable to LWVCC, and mail it with your application form to:

LWVCC
PO Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

Membership dues and contributions to the League of Women Voters (except LWV Education Fund) are not tax deductible.



BUDGET 2018-2019

GROSS EXPENDITURES

General administration	\$200
Board and administrative committees	\$500
Delegates, travel, & workshops	\$1,000
Copper Country Voter	\$550
Education Activities	\$850
Annual meeting, misc.	\$360
State and national dues	\$2,900
Total Expenditures	\$6,360

GROSS INCOME

All Member Dues	\$2,820
Grants, Interest, and Reserves	\$300
Contributions:	
Member	\$900
Non-member	\$1,000
Member Ed Fund	\$590
Nonmember Ed Fund	\$700
Kay LaRue Scholarships	\$50
Total Income	\$6,360

Education and Outreach Activities

- * Held *candidate forums* for Houghton and Keweenaw County Commissioners and State Senate and House races.
- * Participated in the *March for Climate Change*.
- * Hosted Secretary of State, *Jocelyn Benson*, on voting registration changes and establishment of The Citizens Legislative Redistricting Commission.
- * Became invited members of Houghton County Jail Task Force.
- * Welcomed Houghton County Commissioners *Roy Britz and Gretchen Janssen* as speakers at our annual meeting.
- * Held education meetings on the Open Meetings Act, ballot proposals, constitutional convention movement.
- * *A Talk on the Townships* was presented by Steve Karpiak.
- * Organized *Equal Pay Day* event at Michigan Tech.
- * Provided voter information to students at Michigan Tech's *Afternoon on the Town*.
- * Registered voters and provided absentee ballot request forms at Michigan Tech.

Highlights from 2018 - 2019

Advocacy of LWV Positions

Local

- * Letter to Houghton County Commissioners regarding open meeting status of Jail Task Force.
- * *Tech Among Best Colleges for Student Voting* in Michigan Tech's Tech Today.
- * Letters to the Daily Mining Gazette
 - ⇒ Obstacle to passing jail millage is lack of public input.
 - ⇒ Statewide voter campaign against gerrymandering faces partisan resistance.
 - ⇒ Skin in game: Jail project needs public input.
 - ⇒ Gender biases create pay gap.
 - ⇒ Residents urge more public input before vote on jail project.
 - ⇒ LWVCC offers jail plans.
 - ⇒ LWVCC Candidate Forums inform voters.
 - ⇒ LWVCC to print voters' guide.
 - ⇒ Voter Guide informs citizens.
- * Articles in the Daily Mining Gazette
 - ⇒ Ballot rejection won't stop jail overcrowding.
 - ⇒ Jail taskforce sets first meeting date.
 - ⇒ County jail taskforce holds initial meeting.

State of Michigan

- * Legislative Interview with State Senator Ed McBroom.
- * Sent delegate to LWV State convention.



League Partners with Recognizing the Importance of Women's Suffrage Everywhere Upper Peninsula (riseUP)

In April 2019 a group of dozens of women and men of the Upper Peninsula gathered to begin planning to celebrate the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage in the US. And so much has happened since then. Sunflowers are popping up all over, riseUP and the League sponsored a float in the Parade of Nations, and the League, the Michigan Tech Library, and riseUP hosted a healthy crowd for the film *Iron Jawed Angels* on Constitution Day 2019. More educational events are planned for this fall and next year.



Guest speakers Houghton County Commissioners Roy Britz (R) and Gretchen Janssen (D) at the LWVCC April 2019 annual meeting.