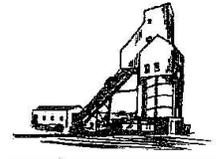




Copper Country Voter

Published by the
Copper Country League of Women Voters
Houghton County, Michigan



LWVCC Calendar

- May 17-19** State Convention
Lansing, MI
- July 17** Report from State Convention
Wednesday, 1:00pm Kangas Cafe (private dining room)
Jutila Center, Hancock
- Aug. 12** Summer Board Meeting
Monday, 4:00pm Mary Marchaterre's home

LWVCC Board for 2012- 2013

- Shared Governance Model**
- Acting President/
Fred DeYampert** 482-2161
- 1st Vice President/
Natural Resources
Kristine Bradof** 482-0446
- 2nd Vice President/
Social Policy
Mary Jane Hatton** 523-5368
- Treasurer
Mary Marchaterre** 483-2291
- Secretary
Barry Fink** 482-4632
- Children and Youth
Louisa Wills** 483-4717
- Education
Carol Kreher** 487-6778
- International Relations
Carol Kurz** 337-2920
- Health Care
Judy Crotty** 296-2099
- Voter Service
Kathy Flagstadt** 399-0721
- Website
Shellie Crisman** 523-6299
- Off Board**
- Education
Karen Hubbard** 482-3870
- Health Policy
Carolyn Weissbach** 482-3173
- Voter Editor
Linda Ott** 487-2315
- Website
Dale Yeo**

Delegates Report from LWVMI State Convention

Two delegates represented LWVCC at the state convention in May in Lansing. They were the only Yoopers in attendance. Judy Crotty, a veteran of previous state and national conventions, was joined by new member Lisa Dunnebeck. Lisa, a former office staffer at the US House of Reps., reported her first League convention was three days of energizing talks and information on issues and good networking about the work of the League. Judy said I learned a lot this time--from watching the league in action as a possible position was debated. Absolute fairness maintained with time-tested procedure was a beautiful thing to see. We don't all agree on topics but we all agree on rules and that made the meetings run smoothly and efficiently. Just pure greatness---thank you to the The League of Women Voters of Michigan Board and all the delegates!

Having split up to attend a broad number of workshops, Lisa and Judy will be sharing information they gathered. The meeting will be in the private dining room of the Kangas Cafe at the Jutila Center in Hancock on Wednesday, July 17th at 1pm. You are welcome to order on your own.

www.lwvccmi.org
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/League-of-Women-Voters-of-the-Copper-Country/212575132106565?ref=hl>

**Minutes - Annual Meeting of Members
League of Women Voters of the Copper
Country
April 20, 2013**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Acting President de Yampert at 12:30p.m. President deYampert called on Kathy Flagstadt to briefly outline the activities of the Copper Country League of Women Voters since the 2013 Annual Meeting.

Quorum:

Secretary Fink confirmed that a quorum of the membership was present.

Appointment of Parliamentarian:

President de Yampert appointed Carol Kreher to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Appointment of Committee to Approve 2013

Minutes :

President de Yampert appointed Marchaterre, Bradof and Wills as the Committee to review and approve the Minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting. The Committee to review the Minutes of the 2012 Annual Meeting of Membership had read and approved the Minutes and those were previously reviewed and accepted by the board.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's report was presented by Mary Marchaterre. The report was accepted and placed on file.

Auditor's Report:

John Michael conducted an audit and submitted his report (found at the bottom of the budget page) that the financial records for the fiscal year 2012 -2013 were in good order. Mr. Michael audited the financial records in the presence of Treasurer Mary Marchaterre. Mr. Michael signed a statement as to the status of these records. It was noted that his statement had incorrectly identified the dates by mistake and they should be April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2014.

Budget Committee Report:

The Budget Committee, represented by Marchaterre, presented its recommended Budget for fiscal year 20013-20014. It was moved by Wills and seconded by Flagstadt that the proposed Budget be adopted. Motioned passed.

Adoption of Programs:

It was moved by Wills and seconded by Flagstadt that

the LWVCC current positions on Houghton County Government, Education, Keweenaw Waterway, Fluoridation, Land Use and Election Procedures be retained. Motion passed.

Kreher proposed one-year extension of the study currently underway on Home Schooling in the Copper Country; seconded by Ellen Varney. Motion passed.

Nominations and Elections:

Report of Nominating Committee:

Marchaterre presented the Nominating Committee report, as follows:

Nominees for two-year terms (2013-2015) are:

President	Remains Open – Nominations from the floor will be accepted
2 nd Vice President	Mary Jane Hatton
Secretary	Barry Fink
Directors	Fredi deYampert Kathy Flagstadt Shellie Crisman

One year position to fulfill the vacancy left by resignation of Karen Hubbard _Carol Kreher

Report of the Nominating Committee was accepted by acting Pres. De Yampert. There were no nominations from the floor. De Yampert agreed to continue as acting President.

Election of Officers and Directors:

It was moved by Nanno Rose and seconded by Carolyn Weissbach and passed unanimously that the slate of nominees for Officers and Directors be elected.

Continuing members (2012-2014)

1 st Vice President	Kristine Bradof
Treasurer	Mary Marchaterre
Directors	Carol Kurz Judy Crotty Louisa Wills

Nominating Committee 2013

Volunteers for the 2013 Nominating Committee are: Kathy Flagstadt; Fredi de Yampert; Martha Sloan

Other Business and/or Directions to the Board from the Membership:

1. State Convention in Lansing, May 17–19, 2013. Crotty, Martha Sloan and Lisa Dunnebacke will attend.

2. Ellen Varney would like to work with Voter Service chairperson Flagstadt to produce a Baraga County “Your Government Officials.”
3. Kurz would like information from the State League regarding a proposal in the state legislature to create for-profit charter schools with the state per-pupil funds to follow the student. Kurz suggests our delegates express our concern about this topic and request more information from the State League. Perhaps we should have a unit meeting on the topic.
4. Fink would like to know if there is anything in the state positions to allow LWVCC to be involved in the public partnership to support the drug court as presented by today’s speaker, Judge Wisti. Also, if the partnership evolves into creation of a 501c3 organization, we need to determine if LWVCC can be a member.
5. Weissbach thanked de Yampert for serving as Acting President and board members for their service.

The following announcements were made:

1. The delegates will make plans for a Report from Convention meeting.
2. The summer board meeting will be August 12, 4pm at Marchaterre’s home.

Adjournment:

The President adjourned the meeting at 1:35pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Fink

Check out recent action at national at LWVUS

<http://lww.org/our-work>:

- Protecting and Engaging Voters / Voter registration, court action
- Reforming Money in Politics
- Gun Safety
- Defending the Environment / Keystone Pipeline, Fracking and more

Highlights from Annual Meeting Speaker Presentation

Submitted by Barry Fink

The Honorable Mark Wisti, judge of the 97th District Court focused his remarks at the LWVCC Annual meeting on the topic of Drug Courts. He is leading the effort to create a drug court for our area, applying for three grants to fund the work of the court. Time for officers to make in-home random inspections, frequent drug testing and the cost of treatment all need to be put in place.

The need for drug courts is apparent given the 330,000 individuals imprisoned in MI and 1.7 million in the US, with a large proportion of those involving drugs. The sentencing guidelines in place are in reality mandates that tightly limit the options for judges and are crowding our jails and prisons with largely non-violent offenders who make up about 20% of the prison population.

Using an engaging approach to describe two typical scenarios in the local courts, Judge Wisti took his listeners through the personal history and likely court experience of a repeat DUI offender and a repeat thief of prescription drugs from a private home. The repeat DUI offenders are the more lethal group, having caused 265 deaths last year in MI. The inadequacy of the current system and the options for improvement using the drug court strategies were detailed. As Judge Wisti explained, he is already instituting many of the approaches of a drug court. He announced that effective immediately, there will be no pleas on drunk driving cases in Houghton County. Since the Sheriff’s office has very little budget to send people for drug testing, along with other funding demands of drug treatment, it will be necessary to forge Agency, Organization and Community Partnerships to sustain the system as the start-up grants are limited to a three year period.

Since alcohol abuse began to be addressed as a public health problem in the 1980s, the negative consequences have decreased significantly. We need the same approach to opiate addiction, the largest element of drug offenses. Judge Wisti exemplifies a no-nonsense yet compassionate jurist, who has a systems view of the large picture of our courts and expectations for honesty from the court and individual offenders.



The League of Women Voters
of the Copper Country
PO Box 815
Houghton, MI 49931

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Join or make a donation to the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country!

Name _____

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Telephone _____ (home) _____ (work)

Check here if you would like to receive your LWVCC
Voter by e-mail.

Contributions to the annual finance drive and Kay LaRue Scholarship
are NOT tax deductible. Checks should be made out to: LWVCC.

Contributions to the Educational Fund are tax deductible.
Checks should be made out to: LWV Educational Fund

Membership

Individual Dues (\$55)

Household Dues (\$80)

Student Dues (\$30)

Donation

Finance Drive (\$____)

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$____)

Education Fund {\$____}