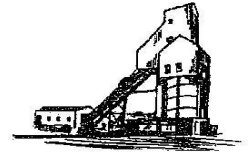


Copper Country Voter

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



LWVCC Calendar

Nov. 4	ELECTION DAY
Nov. 4 Tuesday, 5:00pm	Board Meeting and Election Party Pot Luck Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
Dec. 2 Tuesday, 5:00PM	Board Meeting Habeneros
Jan. 6 Tuesday, 7:00PM	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
Jan. 27 Tuesday, 5:00PM	Annual Program Planning Meeting Kangas Cafe
Feb. 6 Tuesday, 7:00PM	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton

January 27th Planning Meeting

Our January Planning Meeting will be a dinner meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, January 27th at 5pm at the Kangas Cafe in the Jutila Center (the old Hospital) in room 311, Hancock. Please RSVP by Friday, January 23rd to Mary Marchaterre, mmmarcha@mtu.edu or 483-2291 with your menu entree choice of: Stuffed Manicotti with Spinach and Cheese or Chicken Cordon Blue w/ Homemade Mac & Cheese. The cost is \$13 for the meal, which includes: Salad, Roll, Dressings, Dessert, and Beverages: Coffee, Tea, Lemonade, and Gratuity. Unfortunately, "No shows" will still be expected to pay for their dinner and will be billed by the LWVCC, as we will be committed to covering the number we have reserved.

2015 Know your Government Officials pamphlet

The ever popular KYGO will be available for distribution in late January/February 2015, which will contain updated contact information on most Houghton and Keweenaw local, state, and federal government officials. New this year, we will also print a KYGO for Baraga County officials.

LWVCC Board for 2014 - 2015

Shared Governance Model	
Acting President/ Mary Jane Hatton	523-5368
1st Vice President/ Children and Youth Carol Kreher	487-6778
2nd Vice President/ Natural Resources Kristine Bradof	482-0446
Treasurer Mary Marchaterre	483-2291
Secretary Barry Fink	482-4632
Director Ellen Varney	524-7845
Electoral Process Faith Morrison	487-9703
Voter Service Kathy Flagstadt	399-0721
<u>Off Board</u>	
Education Martha Sloan	369-4184
International Relations Carol Kurz	337-2920
Facebook Lisa Dunnebacke	231-2176
Voter Editor Linda Ott	487-2315
Website Editor Shellie Crisman	523-6299

www.lwvccmi.org

<http://www.facebook.com/coppercountrylwv>

Copper Country Election Year Re-Cap

Your LWV CC was busy this election year! In coalition, we co-hosted a candidate forum in October, which was also covered by the media and on our LWVCC website; we paid for radio advertising to Get out and Vote; we compiled and distributed another fabulous Voter Guide, which was also on our website; we presented to several area organizations, Susan Smith LWV-MI State President visited our area to talk about LWV-MI election year activities and issues, we hosted an election night celebration, we helped educate our youth by sending out the SOS "Michigan Votes – Make Your Voice Heard" flyers to all area high schools and by distributing The U.S. Constitution Booklet to 8th grade students in Baraga; hosted Constitution Day events at MTU and FU; hosted National Voter Registration Day events at Houghton and Baraga DHS offices, we participated in poll watching at the Houghton City precinct, and in January we will update our Know Your Government Officials.

Thank YOU for all that you did to help our local LWVCC educate and inform the public, get citizens registered to vote, and help them to get out and vote! Now, we must hold our elected officials accountable by continuing to be in regular contact with them on the issues we care about. Leagues around the country did and will continue to do the work that we do best: arming voters with the information they need to get to the polls. It is the work that the League has done for almost 95 years and there is no one that does it better, according to LWV-US President, Elisabeth MacNamara.

A strong equal pay rule is the way to go!

In April 2014, we celebrated when President Obama signed executive orders to help combat pay discrimination. Now, the Obama administration is getting ready to implement the executive orders. To ensure that the executive orders have the maximum impact in closing the persistent gender pay gap, the Department of Labor (DOL) needs to receive supportive messages from the public

The Department of Labor has extended the deadline for comments on the proposed equal pay rule to **January 5, 2015**. This gives us more time to send a strong message to the Department of Labor that federal contractors shouldn't be allowed to discriminate against their employees with our tax dollars— but it also means our opponents have more

time to try to gut the proposed rule. Please take action today so we can show the Department of Labor that a strong equal pay rule is the way to go!

The gender pay gap isn't just a number on the page—it means less money for food, education, housing, and retirement for millions of women and families nationwide. Closing the pay gap will require addressing pay discrimination based on sex and race, and the proposed rule from DOL will give us more tools to do just that. This new rule is a big deal—federal contractors employ more than 20 percent of the American workforce. That's 28 million people! Sending your own message of support will provide further evidence that the new rule is a good one.

League Education Issues Blog

From: "Legg, Sue M" <smlegg@LATAM.UFL.EDU>
Date: November 20, 2014 at 9:42:51 AM EST
Subject: [New LWV Education Issues Blog

Hello Leaguers,

Last June in Dallas, we held an Education caucus to gauge the interest in sharing information about school choice and accountability. There were 92 League members from 32 states in attendance. We agreed to form national committees to track legislation and advocacy efforts regarding privatization of our public schools.

We have now launched a League Education Issues blog. We ask for your help in advertising the blog in your communities. Please let your membership know that they can subscribe and contribute to a better understanding of what is occurring in each state.

SUBSCRIBE AT: <http://lwveducation.com>

Regards,
Sue Legg, Ph.D.
Chair, School Choice Project
Florida League of Women Voters

Welcome to New Members:

Joan Schumaker Chadde
Rhiana Williams

Poll Watching

Martha Sloan and Mary Marchaterre participated in poll watching in the November election. The Houghton County clerk was contacted ahead of time to let her know of our interest in poll watching. They provided several chairs in a designated area for us. The voting process was streamlined very efficiently to assist everyone from a first time voter to experienced voters. They explained a straight ticket, a split ticket, or a mixed-ticket vote. A split ticket is when you vote for individual candidates in individual offices. A mixed-ticket vote is cast when a voter chooses a party in the straight-ticket portion of the ballot, then votes for individual candidates for office.

Below are the rules in the State of Michigan for poll watching. There are additional codes of conduct that are expected, such as no phones, no talking, writing or reading. It was jokingly suggested that no google glasses or similar hardware be added to the list of items to not bring into the voting area.

An election is an open process that may be observed by any interested person. (However, note that candidates may not remain in the polling place after they have voted because of the possible conflict with the provisions which prohibit campaigning within 100 feet of the polls.) A person who wishes to observe the election process -- who is not a qualified election challenger -- is commonly called a "poll watcher." The qualifications, rights and duties of poll watchers and challengers are contrasted below:

- A challenger must be registered to vote in the state of Michigan; poll watchers do not have to meet this requirement.
- Poll watchers are subject to the same "conduct standards" as challengers.
- A challenger has the right to challenge a person's right to vote and the actions of the precinct board; a poll watcher does not have this authority.

- A challenger may sit behind the processing table; a poll watcher does not have this privilege. (Poll watchers must sit or stand in the "public area" of the polling place where they will not interfere with the voting process.)
- Challengers have a right to look at the Poll Book; poll watchers may look at the Poll Book at the discretion of the precinct board chairperson. A challenger or a poll watcher may not touch the Poll Book or any other voting records.
- A poll watcher who wishes to be present in an absent voter counting board must remain in the room in which the absent voter counting board is working until close of the polls (8 p.m.).
- A poll watcher who wishes to be present in an absent voter counting board is required to take and sign the following oath: "I (name) do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I shall not communicate in any way information relative to the processing or tallying of voters that may come to me while in this counting place until after the polls are closed." The oath may be administered by any member of the absent voter counting board.

In Memory of

Elvis June Schroder Scott

Elvis Scott passed away December 7, 2014. She was a long-time member of the Copper Country League of Women Voters, holding a number of offices and serving a term as President.

*We're going to close the unproductive tax loopholes that have allowed some of the truly wealthy to avoid paying their fair share. In theory, some of those loopholes were understandable, but in practice they sometimes made it possible for millionaires to pay nothing, while a bus driver was paying 10 percent of his salary, and that's crazy. **It's time we stopped it.***

- Ronald Reagan
June 6, 1985



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!

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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 {\$____}