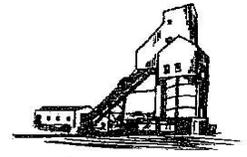




Copper Country Voter

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



LWVCC Calendar

- Apr. 7** Board Meeting
Tuesday, 7:00PM Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
- Apr. 11** Annual Meeting
Saturday, 11:15AM Speaker: Rep. Scott Dianda, MI 110th District
Ramada Waterfront Meeting Room, Hancock
- Apr. 14** Equal Pay Day
Tuesday Wear red to show support!
- Apr. 28** May 5th Ballot Proposal with
Tuesday, 7:00PM MI League President Sue Smith
Houghton High School
- May 1** Teen Facilitative Leadership Workshop
Friday, 6:00PM MSUE – Sisu room
Sponsored by MSUE, Michigan 4-H,
H/K 4-H and LWVCC and lead by
Brian Wibby, MSUE Educator
- May 15-17** LWVMI State Convention
“Giving Voice to Democracy”
Four Points Hotel, Kalamazoo, MI
- June 19-21** Seafood Fest
Friday to Sunday Volunteers are needed
- August 18** 95th Anniversary of the right to vote for
women – 19th amendment passed
- August 18** Summer Board Meeting
Tuesday, 5:00pm Mary Marchaterre's home
1216 E. Lakeshore Dr, Houghton
Potluck. All members are welcome!

Dianda Spoke at LWVCC Annual Meeting

Michigan state representative Scott Dianda spoke to the 55th annual meeting of LWVCC on April 12 to an audience of over 30 people. He focused his remarks on explaining issues related to the upcoming state ballot proposal. Rep. Dianda explained that he had been one of twelve legislators to vote in opposition to putting the proposal on the ballot, feeling that it was the job of the legislature to pass bills as needed to raise funds for public programs. He then went into what the proposal, if passed, would do. In the first few years a major portion of the monies raised would go towards paying down the state debt. Audience members had many questions that were addressed.

LWVCC Board for 2015 - 2016

- Shared Governance Model**
- Acting President/**
Mary Jane Hatton 523-5368
- 1st Vice President/**
Children and Youth
Carol Kreher 523-4048
- 2nd Vice President/**
Natural Resources
Kristine Bradof 482-0446
- Treasurer**
Mary Marchaterre 483-2291
- Secretary**
Barry Fink 482-4632
- Directors**
- Ellen Varney** 524-7845
- Rhianna Williams** 651-402-9708
- Electoral Process**
Faith Morrison 487-9703
- Voter Service**
Kathy Flagstadt 399-0721
- Off Board**
- 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>

**Minutes - 55th Annual Meeting of Members
League of Women Voters of the Copper Country
Ramada Inn, Hancock, MI
April 11, 2015**

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Acting President Mary Jane Hatton at 12:30pm.

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

Appointment of Parliamentarian: Hatton appointed Bill Fink to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Appointment of Committee to Approve 2015

Minutes : Acting President Hatton appointed Marchaterre, Bradof and Morrison as the Committee to review and approve the Minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting. The Committee to review the Minutes of the 2013 Annual Meeting of Membership had read and approved the Minutes and those were previously reviewed and accepted by the board and published in the Voter. Morrison moved and Rose seconded that the minutes of the 2014 annual meeting be approved as published in the May 2014 Voter. Passed

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was presented by Mary Marchaterre. It was moved by Morrison and seconded by deYampert that the report be accepted and placed on file.

Financial Reviewer's Report: Travis Howard conducted a review and submitted his report (found at the bottom of the budget page) that the financial records for the fiscal year 2014 -2015 were in good order.

Budget Committee Report: The Budget Committee, represented by Marchaterre, presented its recommended Budget for fiscal year 2015-2016. It was moved by Kreher and seconded by Susan Gilbert Beck that the proposed Budget, as published in the program booklet, be adopted. Motion passed.

Adoption of Program: It was moved by Marchaterre and seconded by Nancy Herck that the LWVCC current positions, as printed in the meeting booklet, on Houghton County Government, Education, Keweenaw Waterway, Fluoridation, Land Use and Election Procedures and Houghton County Jail Facility be retained. Motion passed.

Proposed New Study: A new study is proposed that the LWVCC will conduct a one year study exploring the availability of public transportation in Baraga,

Houghton and Keweenaw counties and any gaps in service. The board recommends adoption of the study. Moved by Susan Beck and seconded by Morrison that a study of public transportation in the counties be adopted. The motion passed.

Beck was recognized for initiating the study idea and preparing the proposal. Bradof will chair the study committee. She invites all interested parties to participate on the committee.

Nominations and Elections:

Report of Nominating Committee: Fink presented the Nominating Committee report, as follows:

Nominees for two-year terms (2014-2016) are:

President	Remains Open
Secretary	Barry Fink
Directors	Kathy Flagstadt
	Faith Morrison
	Rhianna Willams

2016 Nominating Committee are:

Kathy Flagstadt, Heather Bean, David Nitz

Report of the Nominating Committee was accepted by Hatton. There were no nominations from the floor.

Election of Officers and Directors: It was moved by deYampert and seconded by Nanno Rose and passed unanimously that the slate of nominees for Officers and Directors be elected. Motion passed.

Note: By-laws amendment passed in 2014 means 2nd VP should have been elected again in 2015 (odd year.) This was not done and needs to be addressed at the May board meeting.

Continuing members (2014-2016)

Acting President:	Mary Jane Hatton
1 st Vice President:	Carol Kreher
2 nd Vice President:	Kristine Bradof
Treasurer:	Mary Marchaterre
Directors:	Ellen Varney

Directions to the Board from the Membership:

1. Dunnebacke encourages all members with material to contribute to Facebook or other social media to contact her. This will help in keeping the site active and fresh.
2. Rose asked for recognition of the people serving off-board, especially Linda Ott for the Voter.

Adjournment:

Hatton adjourned the meeting at 1:05pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by, Secretary Fink

LWV-MI President Sue Smith presented Ballot Proposal 1 Pro's and Con's on April 28th

Sue Smith, President of the League of Women Voters of Michigan, spoke on Tuesday, April 28, during a presentation about Proposal 1 at Houghton High School. Her PowerPoint presentation broke down the parts of Proposal 1. This was her seventh presentation, and one of 25 given by LWV representatives during April. She began her presentation by giving a short summation of the proposal, and saying "It is complicated".

LWV of Michigan doesn't support or oppose the proposal, and the only reason for giving the presentations was to provide voters with information. On Tuesday, there were 81 audience members and 17 audience questions answered, by Sue Smith.

Teen Facilitative Leadership Workshop

LWVCC teamed up with MSUE and Houghton/Keweenaw 4-H to offer a Teen Facilitative Workshop that was open to the community. This was the second of two workshops. The thirteen youth and three adult leaders learned the difference between presenting, running a meeting, and facilitative leadership. Brian Wibby, MSUE Educator, kept the group active having them present different techniques of Facilitative Leadership. Three groups presented on making consensus and three on brainstorming ideas to help make decisions. The youth were very active with this part of the program. The teens facilitated us to decide on a trip with unlimited amount of funds, find the best way to jump into an active volcano, decide what animals to use for a fundraising calendar, and more. They also learned to critique others in how they did as well as some handy tools to use when using the different styles of facilitative leadership. One third of this group participated in the previous workshop on Leaders of Tomorrow. Maybe one of these Teen Facilitators can help the LWVCC with a future decision sometime. Thanks to the LWVCC for the support given on both these workshops.

Mary C Tidwell Memorial

We are sad to report the loss of past President Mary C. Tidwell. Mary passed away on Monday, May 4th in Grand Rapids. She interviewed Harry Truman when she was a reporter for the Washington D.C. Star, was a Director of Public Relations of Mississippi State College and an English professor at Michigan Tech. Mary was LWVCC President in 1971-72 during which time the League studied water pollution.

Ballot Proposal Failure

Michigan voters defeated a sweeping ballot proposal designed to raise \$1.2 billion more for the state's roads in a devastating blow, toward efforts to address the long-running shortfall in what the state spends on road maintenance and construction. Michigan voters rejected by a historic 4-to-1 margin, it unofficially garnered the lowest percentage of the vote for a constitutional amendment since the adoption of the 1963 Constitution (Proposal A of 1980, a complicated school funding and property tax measure, held the old record at just 21.22 percent of the vote).

Some major inherent problems were confusion at its complexity, opposition to a tax increase, general mistrust of the government and resistance to broadening the proposal to more than just roads. Opposition to the plan was not well organized; the proposal just seemed to collapse under its own weight.

Governor Rick Snyder said early Wednesday, May 6th, "the "defeat Tuesday night of Proposal 15-1 means merely that the parties will have to come back to the table and try again. The defeat Tuesday does mean there will likely not be additional revenue for the coming construction season. There's been a history of the state doing band-aids like short term fixes that glosses over the problem," he said to a suggestion of taking money out of the rainy day fund to cover the coming year. "If there's a long-term option in place, then there can be some looking at short-term options to speed things up," he said.

In the end, former Rep. Chris Ward, in a Facebook post, harkened back to the old axiom about how putting together a major legislative compromise is comparable to the more unsavory elements of making sausage. "Lesson of the day: Never put sausage on the ballot," he said. - See more at:

http://www.gongwer.com/programming/news.cfm?article_id=540890101#sthash.mwM99YDX.dpuf

Welcome to New Members

Scott Dianda
Beth Flynn
Carol Hocking

A Friendly Reminder

Our League membership year runs from April to March. If you haven't yet renewed, now is the time. If you are interested in volunteering, call Mary Marchaterre at 483-2291.



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 _____

Address _____

Email _____

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 {\$____)