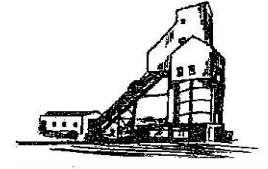


Copper Country Voter



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



<http://www.lwvccmi.org/>
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LWVCC Calendar

August 17 Wednesday, 4pm	Summer Board meeting Marchaterre's 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton	October 3 Monday, 7PM	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
August 26	National Women's Equality Day	October 4 Tuesday, 7PM	Ontonagon Candidate Forum hosted by Republican and Democratic Parties Ontonagon High School cafeteria
August 27 Saturday, 11-3PM	Info for MTU students "Afternoon on the Town" Table in front of Delta Phi Epsilon Houghton	October 11	LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE
September 6 Tuesday, 7PM	Board Meeting Marchaterre's 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton	October 18 Tuesday, 6-8PM	LWV Taxation and Budgeting Position Educational Meeting Portage Library, Houghton
Ongoing	Finlandia University is holding registration events through Oct 11 Hancock	October 18	Voter Guide Published in Daily Mining Gazette
September 16 Friday, noon	Michigan Tech Constitution Day Event Husky statue, rain location East Reading room of Library, Houghton	October 20	UP Action Day Conference Don H. Bottum University Center NMU, Marquette
September 19 Monday, noon-4PM	State of Michigan SOS Mobil Van – register to vote Michigan Tech Library, Houghton	October 29 Saturday, 7PM	Halloween Party Marchaterre's, 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton
September 27	National Voter Registration Day	November 1 Monday, 7PM	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
September 29 Thursday, 6-8PM	Houghton County Candidates Forum Lakeview Manor Community Room, Hancock	November 5	General election absentee ballot requests must be received by 2:00pm
		NOVEMBER 8	ELECTION DAY

Secretary of State Mobile Van Comes to Houghton September 19, Noon – 4:00 PM

Michigan's Secretary of State's office has a mobile van to travel the state registering people on college campuses. It is open to the public. The van will be at Michigan Tech on September 19 from noon until 4:00 PM. People who want to register to vote in Michigan need to bring a drivers' license, a state ID or other paperwork such as a pay stub demonstrating proof of residency. Finlandia University is planning on providing transportation to Michigan Tech's campus. Let's get out there and "Rock the Vote"!

Observer Corps Update

We had an observer at the last three Houghton-Portage School District board meetings. She let us know of the August and September 19th public meetings the board planned for voter input on the May 2017 school bond proposal. This allowed us to let our members know about via Facebook an this month's Voter. The next voter input from the school board is September 19th, 5:30pm at the Houghton High School library.

League Volunteer Opportunities!

Candidate Forum This month we have an opportunity for you to volunteer with the league during our candidate forum September 19th from 6pm to 8pm. Volunteers may help with greeting, ushering, set-up, or time keeping. It is a one night commitment and you get to attend the candidate forum! Call Mary at 483-2291 or email mmmarcha@mtu.edu if you are interested.

Observer Corps Are you interested in local government but unsure where to start? Join the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country Observer Corps. Observer Corps members attend one meeting a month of the government body of their choice. You observe, record or take notes. The important part is your presence so our government officials know citizens pay attention to what they do. Observers do not speak or make comments, just attend a meeting, it's that easy! Call Mary at 483-2291 or email mmmarcha@mtu.edu if you are interested.

Straight Ticket Voting in Michigan

On September 9th, the US Supreme Court declined to hear the State of Michigan's appeal of a lower court ruling which suspended the state's ban on straight-ticket voting. For the November elections, straight-ticket voting will still be an option for Michigan voters.

The straight-ticket voting option allows for quick voting and is equally available to the democratic, republican, and green parties as well as citizens in urban, suburban, and rural precincts. The Citizen's Research Council reports that, "A single voter is asked in an election cycle to vote on between 54 and 150 officials of state government and the judiciary and from 23 to 37 local government officials."

That is a lot of people to vote for. Plus what is the point of parties if people do not support them? As said by radio host Jack Lessenberry, "After all, political parties are supposed to stand for something, and if you feel that Democratic or Republican or Green Party principles are more important than individual candidates, you might vote that way." While the League doesn't support or oppose parties, we agree that voters should have the right to chose based on party.

The straight-ticket option allows for quicker voting, but for those who want to may make their straight ticket a "split ticket" by overriding their straight ticket choice for any office. In addition, straight ticket voting still requires voters to mark non-partisan portions of the ballot. The League of Women Voters of Michigan supports election laws that make voting accessible and convenient for all citizens to participate, including the straight-ticket voting option.

Action Day Conference

October 20, 2016 at NMU 9:30 – 3:00 pm

Action Day is a community conference sponsored by S.A.I.L. (Superior Alliance for Independent Living) focused on access, advocacy, and action for people with and without disabilities. Action Day is filled with informative workshops and inspiring guest speakers. Action Day is Thursday, October 20th at NMU in the Don H. Bottum University Center, in Marquette. Registration is required. Kathy Flagstadt, CCLWV Voter Services Chair, will present a nonpartisan information workshop on My Choice – My Vote, a voting awareness program, during the day. For more information about the event contact SAIL at 906-228-5744.

In Memorium

Ellen Varney – devoted to many causes, including active citizenship and equality for women and valued board member.

Ros Miller – devoted household member for the entire years, to the current day, of wife Ruth's membership. Ros attended many League meetings, especially after Ruth started to use a wheelchair.

Afternoon on the Town with Michigan Tech Students

On Saturday, August 27th 11:00am – 3:00pm the annual Welcome Week event, An Afternoon on the Town, took place. Students from MTU took a stroll down College Ave and into the downtown Houghton area to visit tables and storefronts to see what our local business' and services have to offer. Our booth was in front of the sorority, Delta Phi Epsilon house on College Ave. We answered voting questions such as where to register and how to do absentee voting. Over 950 paper fans with registration information were passed out to the students by Kathy Flagstadt, Mary Marchaterre and Rhianna Williams.



**Candidate Forum – Ontonagon
October 4 with 1st Congressional District and
110th State Representative**

The Ontonagon County Democratic Party and the Ontonagon County Republican Party joined forces in coordinating a candidate forum. This will involve both candidates for the 1st Congressional District, Democrat Lon Johnson and Republican Jack Bergman. The forum will also include both candidates for Michigan's 110th State Representative Seat, Democrat Scott Dianda and Republican Greg Markkanen.

The forum will take place on at 7 p.m. Oct. 4 in the Ontonagon High School cafeteria. A meet and greet session will run from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. when voters will have the opportunity to meet with not only the forum candidates but also candidates in Ontonagon County contested races.

Kathy Flagstadt will attend the forum to observe and bring back candidate information from the forum.

**Candidate Forum – Hancock
September 29 for Houghton County Candidates**

The CCLWV and the Keweenaw Chamber of Commerce will host a Houghton County candidate forum Thursday, Sept. 29th 6:00–8:00pm at Lakeview Manor, 1401 Quincy Street, Hancock, in the community room. The forum is open to the public.

Candidates for the Houghton County contested races will participate in 3 segments: Prosecuting Attorney from 6:05 – 6:30, Sheriff 6:35 – 7:00, and County Commissioner District 1, 2, and 5 7:05 -7:50 pm. There will be a 5 minute break between each segment.

CCLWV members are encouraged to attend the event and to send in candidate questions either in advance or the day of the forum. Members interested in helping out at the forum, please contact either Kathy Flagstadt at 399-0721 or Mary Marchaterre 482-2291. We are looking for pages, timers, screeners, and a moderator.

Candidates will have an opportunity for a 1 minute opening remarks, 1 minute response time to answer audience questions, and 1 minute closing remarks.

Voter Guide to be printed in Daily Mining Gazette Oct. 18

Letters and questionnaires were mailed to 236 candidates in Houghton and Keweenaw County, including school board candidates. We requested responses back by 9-22-16 . The LWV Voter Guide will be published by the Daily Mining Gazette and go out on Tuesday, October 18. The Voter Guide will also be available on our website, after 10-22. In addition, there will be 800 extra copies of the Voter Guide distributed to local area businesses, senior citizen homes, and the library in Houghton and Keweenaw County.

LWVCC Board for 2016 - 2017

President/Resource Management Rhianna Williams	296-9539
1st Vice President Mary Jane Hatton	523-5368
2nd Vice President/Natural Resources Kristine Bradof	482-0446
Treasurer Mary Marchaterre	483-2291
Secretary Barry Fink	482-4632
Electoral Process Faith Morrison	487-9703
Voter Service Kathy Flagstadt	399-0721
<u>Off Board</u>	
Children and Youth Carol Kreher	523-4048
Education Martha Sloan	369-4184
Voter Editor Linda Ott	487-2315
Website Editor Shellie Crisman	523-6299

Friendly Dues Reminder

Our League membership year runs from April to March. If you haven't yet renewed your membership, now is the time.

See form on Page 4.



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 {\$_____}