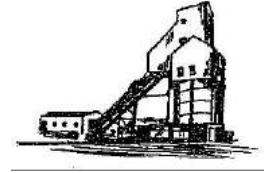


Copper Country Voter



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



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

LWVCC Calendar

May 19-21	LWVMI Convention – Leah Bectel attending Kellogg Center, East Lansing	Aug 5 Saturday, 5pm	LWVCC Featured Organization at Keweenaw Roller Girls Solar System Smackdown Mixer Calumet Colosseum, Calumet
May 22 Monday, 10:30am	LWV Legislative Interview with Tom Casperson via Skype 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton – Mary Marchaterre 483-2291	Aug 15 Tuesday, 4pm	Summer Board Meeting - potluck 1216 E Lakeshore Dr, Houghton – Mary Marchaterre 483-2291

Local League Legislative Interview Kathy Flagstadt, Voter Services

At the start of every new legislative session (2 year terms), the Advocacy Committee & the State LWV Board seek to benefit from input from local League interviews of their State Representative and State Senator. These interviews help to establish a relationship with the legislator, and help us determine what issues are important to each legislator, and help the LWV anticipate what issues may be addressed in the next legislative session.

The Copper Country LWV and the Delta County LWV have teamed up to host an interview with Senator Tom Casperson (R) Escanaba via Skype. The meeting will be held on May 22, at 10:30 am at the home of Mary Marchaterre. If you wish to attend this meeting, which is open to LWV members only, please contact Mary at 483-2291 or Kathy Flagstadt 399-0721. The LWV-MI has sent us 6 questions that we must ask Senator Casperson and forms to record his answers. If time allows, we may be able to ask additional questions that LWV-MI has sent, or one or two of our own, that were not addressed.

A Friendly Reminder

Our League membership year runs from April to March. If you haven't yet renewed, now is the time. Please consider adding an additional donation when paying your dues. Tax-deductible donations to the Education Fund still benefit LWVCC. If you are interested in volunteering, call Mary Marchaterre at 483-2291.

Climate Change Skeptics Taking Heart(land) Again

As of April 28, searching “climate change” on the epa.gov website leads to a notice that “the website for the United States Environmental Protection Agency is undergoing changes that reflect the agency’s new direction under President Donald Trump and Administrator Scott Pruitt.” (An archived “snapshot” of the website as of January 19 is retained with a red banner saying it is “historical material.”) The news release goes on to say that “our website needs to reflect the views of the leadership of the agency.” Shouldn't the website reflect the consensus of 97% of peer-reviewed climate science papers?

The scientific method is not an opinion poll, and it doesn't involve cherry picking evidence supporting the desired outcome and rejecting anything that contradicts it. Multiple lines of evidence (rate of rising global temperature, glacier and ice-cap retreat, permafrost melting, sea-level rise, among others) converge to support human-caused climate change as the only consistent explanation. The 3% of papers that dismiss global warming don't converge to a consistent alternate explanation.

On a related front, the Heartland Institute's mission “to discover, develop, and promote free-market solutions to social and economic problems” once again involves sending a report full of misinformation, *Why Scientists Disagree About Global Warming*, to K-12 teachers across

(continued on page 3)

**Minutes - Annual Meeting of Members
League of Women Voters of the Copper Country
April 8, 2017**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m. by 1st Vice President Barry Fink, who briefly outlined the activities of the Copper Country League of Women Voters since the 2016 annual meeting. She delivered greetings from President Rhianna Williams who is working in California. The board dedicated this year's meeting to Ellen Varney, an active board member from Baraga County who died last year. Among the year's highlights were Leah Bectel joining the board as student liaison to Michigan Tech; participation in events including Equal Pay Day, Constitution Day, and Michigan Tech's Afternoon on the Town for new students; public programs on teen leadership with 4-H for 20 youth, money in politics, gerrymandering, national popular vote, regional transportation, last year's annual meeting speaker George Stockero of the Copper Country Intermediate School District; and publication of the Your Government Officials pocket guide and the Voter Guide in the *Daily Mining Gazette* for the November elections.

Quorum:

Acting Secretary Kristine Bradof confirmed that a quorum of the current membership was present, consisting of members who renewed or joined since the fiscal year began April 1.

Appointment of Parliamentarian:

VP Fink appointed Carol Kreher to serve as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Appointment of Committee to Approve Today's Minutes:

VP Fink appointed Linda Belote, Faith Morrison, and Kathy Flagstadt as the committee to review and approve the minutes from today's annual meeting. The committee to review the minutes of last year's annual meeting of membership had read and approved the minutes and they were accepted by the board and printed in the Copper Country Voter newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

Faith Morrison presented the report from Treasurer Mary Marchaterre. The main reason for the \$1,337.45 deficit was less income than expected from the annual finance drive, but it was covered by reserve funds. The report of the budget committee that also included Kathy Flagstadt was accepted and placed on file.

Financial Reviewer's Report:

Travis Howard conducted a review and submitted a report (found at the bottom of the budget page) that the financial records for the fiscal year 2016-17 were in good order.

Budget Committee Report:

Morrison presented the budget committee's recommended budget for fiscal year 2017-18. She referred to the chart in the annual meeting booklet to explain a proposed increase in dues for 2018-19 to cover per-member payments and avoid a deficit. The higher dues are in line with other dues in the state. The finance drive did not meet its goal this year. To increase donations, Flagstadt noted that the committee suggested asking renewing members to add a donation when paying dues. Linda Ott will add that to the Voter. Nanno Rose suggested noting that tax-deductible donations to the Education Fund still benefit LWVCC because the funds can be used for a portion of LWVMI and LWVUS per-member payments, as well as expenses for educational outreach. Moved by Morrison, seconded by Kreher, and passed that the proposed budget be adopted.

Vote on new dues structure: Moved by Morrison, seconded by Kreher to implement a new dues rate of **Individual \$60; Household \$90 and Student \$30** for the 2018-19 fiscal year; motion passed.

Adoption of Programs:

Moved by Morrison, seconded by Rose, and passed that the LWVCC retain its current positions on Houghton County Government, Education, Keweenaw Waterway, Fluoridation, Land Use and Election Procedures. No new positions were proposed. Morrison noted that advocacy must be supported by positions. Fink added that they could be LWVMI or LWVUS positions, too. Positions may be updated and still support advocacy. Major changes involving restudying an issue deactivate the position and ability to advocate on it.

Bylaws Amendment:

Flagstadt moved, Belote seconded that the following change to the bylaws, as printed in the March Voter, be approved:

Article III, Sec. 2, Parts a) Voting members shall be citizens at least ~~18~~ 16 years of age and b) Associate members (those under ~~18~~ 16) are non-voting members. *This language removes the citizenship requirement and lowers the voting age, aligning LWVCC bylaws with changes LWVUS adopted.* Kreher noted interest from participants in the teen leadership program who would be eligible for Kay LaRue Membership Scholarships.

Nominations and Elections:

Kreher presented the Nominating Committee report of board nominees to serve two-year terms from April 2017 through March 2019:

President:	Rhianna Williams
2 nd Vice President:	Kristine Bradof
Secretary:	Taryn Mack
Directors:	Kathy Flagstadt Faith Morrison Leah Bectel

Continuing members, April 2016 through March 2018:

Treasurer: Mary Marchaterre
1st Vice President: Barry Fink

Appointed, Serving Off Board:

Voter Editor: Linda Ott
Webmaster: Shellie Crisman
Children and Youth: Carol Kreher
Education: Martha Sloan

Nominating Committee 2018: Chair Carol Kreher (two other volunteers needed).

Rose moved, Flagstadt seconded that the report of the Nominating Committee be accepted. 1st VP Fink called for nominations from the floor. Hearing none, she called for a vote on the slate of nominees.

Election of Officers and Directors: Moved by Morrison, seconded by Hubbard, and passed unanimously that the slate of nominees for officers and directors be elected.

Introductions:

Board members present at the meeting introduced themselves, and volunteers were thanked.

Other Business:

Bectel will represent LWVCC at the LWV of Michigan Convention in May.

Directions to the Board

Morrison recommended continuing to grow the Observer Corps, noting the Krissy Sundstrom has been observing Houghton-Portage Township School Board meetings. Linda Belote expressed interest in becoming an observer for Houghton County Board of Commissioners meetings. She had toured the Houghton County Jail, which is still overcrowded even though the drug court is helping to reduce the number of inmate days. A discussion ensued about the 2010 referendum to build a new jail that voters rejected. The overcrowding at the jail has only deteriorated further since then, increasing the risk of an eventual lawsuit.

Flagstadt thanked members who participated in the recent Equal Pay Day (Kreher, Fink, Belote, Barb Turuc), as well as a representative of the Keweenaw Business and Professional Women.

A summer board meeting will be held, probably in August. All members are welcome to attend board meetings.

Adjournment:

The President adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Acting Secretary Kristine Bradof
Reviewed by committee members
Linda Belote, Kathy Flagstadt, and Faith Morrison.

Climate Change Skeptics Taking Heart(land) Again (continued from page 1)

the country to help them counter “global warming alarmists” (<http://store.heartland.org/shop/why-scientists-disagree-about-global-warming/>). The CBS Evening News on Earth Day featured Heartland’s president promoting “climate realism,” presumably to balance coverage of the March for Science (www.heartland.org/news-opinion/news/heartland-promotes-climate-realism-on-cbs-evening-news). Unfortunately, media attempts to present opposing sides of an issue can give voice to pseudoscience that doesn’t hold up to scientific scrutiny.

With perfect timing, the episode of On the Media that aired on WGGL May 7 has three stories relevant to climate change, ideological think tanks, and "dark money": <http://www.wnyc.org/story/on-the-media-2017-05-05> Here’s a summary of the climate change segment. For 23 years, while working at the Cato Institute, it was [Jerry Taylor's](#) job to be skeptical of climate change in the media. But in recent years he's changed his tune. Since 2014, when he founded the [Niskanen Center](#), a libertarian think tank, he has urged conservative policymakers to accept the risks of climate change, and then craft policies to address them.

He discussed the language and rhetoric that has proven effective in getting climate change skeptics to think differently.

The TakeAway featured a related five-minute segment three weeks ago: <http://www.wnyc.org/story/conservatives-pushing-clean-energy-options> Self-described 40-year Republican activist Debby Dooley, a Tea Party co-founder who also founded Conservatives for Energy Freedom/Green Tea Coalition, discussed conservatives being conditioned for years by groups like the Heartland Institute not to worry about climate change and to reject renewable energy. Heartland now takes money from the Koch brothers and other fossil fuel interests to spread climate change misinformation just as they did from tobacco companies in the 1990s to dismiss the dangers of second-hand smoke. Her group’s view: it doesn't matter if people believe in climate change as long as they support renewable energy and the US taking the lead on it as a means to promote energy choice and minimize national security risks from our vulnerable centralized energy grid. Like Jerry Taylor of the Niskanen Center, she also emphasizes that environmentalists talking climate change will never get conservatives to listen, but changing the focus to free-market energy choice will. The coalition spans the political spectrum because environmental and energy issues shouldn’t be at odds.

Honorary Lifetime Members

We need your help in determining who is a Lifetime member. HONORARY LIFE MEMBER is a person who has been a member of the League for 50 years or more and is granted lifetime membership without dues obligation.

Please contact Mary Marchaterre @ 483-2291 or mmmarcha@mtu.edu. Below are the members who

have been identified so far:

Viola Halkola
Karen Hubbard
Carol Kurz
Patsy May
Ruth Miller
Ruthann Ruehr
Norma Lee Stuart
Sherry & Anthony Zoars

**A tremendous thank you to our friends and members.
Your time, energy, and donations are forever appreciated.**

Albee, Judith & Steve
Allan's Realty
Anonymous
Bach, David
Belote, Linda S.
Blumhardt, William D. & Joanne M.
Book Concern Printers
Boxer, Susanne V
Bradof, Kristine
Chadde, Joan Schumaker
Cole, Donna & Thomas
Copper Country Intermediate School District
Copper Island Printing & Graphics Services
Country Inn & Suites
Dennis, Mark S
Department of Health & Human Services
Evers, Carol & Lawrence
Fink, Barry & William
Finlandia University-Business School
Finnish American Heritage Center
Fish, Walter
Fisher, Jill
Flagstadt, Kathryn A
Gorman, Hugh & Bonnie
Harrison, Cynthia & Geoffrey
Herck, Nancy
Houghton-Keweenaw 4-H
Hubbard, Karen
Hunt, Mary L
James Sarazin Family Dentistry
Jeffers High School
Johnson, Phyllis H.
Kangas Cafe
Keith, Don B
Keweenaw Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Kingsley, Sue Ellen
Kirkish, Daniel R.
Kolb, Wanda
Kreher, Carol
Kurtz, Jeanne & Craig
Kurz, Carol

La Rue, Pam & family
Lewis, Gilbert N. & Bagley, Susan T.
Luck, Kelly
Marchaterre, Mary M & Nitz, David F
Marier, Justin
Martin, Susan
May, Patsy
McKenzie, Lisa
Melton, Gloria
Memorial Chapel Funeral Homes, Inc.
Michigan Technological University
Miller, Ruth
Morgan, Phil & Michelle
Morrison, Faith & Co, Tomas
MSU Extension
Murthy, Pushpa
Ott, Linda
Peterson, Carolyn
Pickens, James B.
Pintar, Anton J.
Portage Lake District Library
radio stations WCCY-WOLF, WMPL, WLUC-TV
Rajala, George
Ramada Inn
Richter, Dana
Rodeheffer, Rita
Rose, Nanno
Sloan, Martha
Soldan, Alice & Ted
Spence, Theresa
Stuart, Norma Lee
Sullivan, John
Superior Child Abuse Prevention Council
The Daily Mining Gazette
The Print Shop
Troesch, Valerie
UP Engineers & Architects, Inc.
UPPCO
Varney, Ellen
Wisti, Ruth
Zoars, Sherry & Tony

Keweenaw Roller Girls feature LWVCC

On August 5 at 5pm at the Calumet Coliseum the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country will be the featured guest organization at the Annual Solar System Smackdown and receive the proceeds from the 50/50 raffle. The Keweenaw Roller Girls (KRG) is a flat track roller derby league based out of Hancock, MI that formed in September of 2012 for women over the age of 18. The league accepts those who are willing to work hard and have fun regardless of shape, size, orientation, and level of athleticism. Please join us for some high energy fun with the Roller Girls.

New and Returning Members

Friederike Gast
Jacqueline Huntoon
Taryn Mack
Mark Mitchell
Dianne Patrick
Rolf (Susy) Swanson

March for Science



LWVCC members participated in the local March for Science in Houghton April 22, 2017 urging residents to Vote for Science.

LWVCC Board for 2017 - 2018

President/Resource Management Rhianna Williams	296-9539
1st Vice President Barry Fink	483-4632
2nd Vice President/Natural Resources Kristine Bradof	482-0446
Treasurer Mary Marchaterre	483-2291
Secretary Tayrn Mack	231-1713
Electoral Process Faith Morrison	487-9703
Leah Bectel Mich Tech Student	
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



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)

Suggested Donation of \$10

Finance Drive (\$____)

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$____)

Education Fund {\$____}