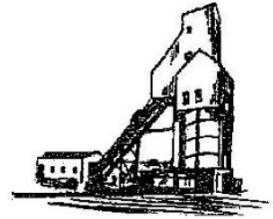


# Copper Country Voter



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

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



## LWVCC Calendar

<b>February 5</b> Tuesday, 7pm	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton	<b>April 2</b> Tuesday, 7pm	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton
<b>March 5</b> Tuesday, 7pm	Board Meeting Country Inn & Suites, Houghton	<b>April 11</b> Thursday, 7pm	A Talk on the Townships by Steve Karpiak Carnegie Museum Community Room, Houghton
<b>March 9</b> Saturday, 1pm	Planning Meeting for 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Suffrage Portage Lake District Library, Houghton	<b>April 27</b> Saturday, 11:15am	LWVCC Annual Meeting with County Commissioners Roy Britz and Gretchen Janssen Ramada Inn, Hancock
<b>March 12</b> Tuesday, 6pm	Open Meetings Act Presentation by Valorie Troesch, Portage Lake District Library, Houghton	<b>May 12</b> Sunday, 10:30am	Constitutional Convention Movement Poses Threat by Liz Hakola BHK Child Development Board Head Start Center, Houghton
<b>March 21</b> Thursday, 7pm	New Member Unit Meeting Fink's house 22083 Royalwood Dr., Houghton	<b>May 17-19</b>	2019 LWVMI State Convention. Livonia, MI Celebrate the LWVMI 100th Year!
<b>April 2</b> Tuesday, 11:30-12:30	Equal Pay Day Event at MTU Michigan Tech Husky statue, Rain location Fisher Hall		

### Understanding Michigan's Open Meetings Act

The Copper Country League of Women Voters will host a Public Forum on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, from 6:00 to 7:30 at the Portage Lake District Library Community Room. The topic of the Forum is "Understanding Michigan's Open Meetings Act" and the presenter will be League member, Valorie Troesch.

Michigan's Open Meetings Act establishes important rights for the public. Yet, many of us do not know what these rights are or we don't understand how they work. What public meetings are covered? What notices are required? When is a public body entitled to have a closed session? What about the use of e-mail and other electronic communications during meetings? How does someone enforce these right and what are the penalties for violations? These questions and others will be addressed during the forum.

Surprisingly, issues about open meetings laws are coming up more and more often, even locally. Come and learn more about this important and timely topic.

### New (and not so new) Member Introduction to the League

Thursday March 21, 7pm  
at home of Barry Fink, 22083 Royalewood Rd.  
Houghton. 482-4632.

We will have an orientation to how the League of Women Voters works on three tiers, local, state and national. All members are invited to attend. If you know someone who might be interested in knowing more about us but has not yet joined the League, please invite them to be a guest. As we approach the hundredth birthday of the League, we are excited to bring new energy into our local league. See you on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Proposed Bylaw Changes

Proposed changes are marked as follows. Only the impacted section is listed below. The full bylaws with changes are on our web page. You can request a full copy by calling Mary Marchaterre 483-2291 or email [mmmarcha@mtu.edu](mailto:mmmarcha@mtu.edu).

**Bolded items were added.**

**Bolded struck through were removed.**

### ARTICLE III Membership

Sec. 2. Types of Membership. The membership of the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country shall be composed of the voting members and associate members.

- a) Voting members shall be at least 16 years of age.
- b) Associate members **are those under 16 years of age. (those under sixteen) are non-voting members.**

### ARTICLE IV Officers

Sec. 2. The President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors, unless the President shall designate another person to preside. The President **or the President's designee** may, in the absence of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks and notes. **The President and** shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The President shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Sec. 5. The Treasurer. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse them only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting, and shall perform such other duties as customarily pertain to the office. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited annually by a qualified individual **member** appointed by the Board of Directors.

### ARTICLE V Board of Directors

Sec. 1. Election, Qualifications and Term. The Board of Directors **shall consists** of the officers of the League, **and** two to five elected **at-large** directors. **and not more than five appointed directors. The number of individuals serving on the Board will not exceed 10 nor fall below three.** Elected directors shall take office at the conclusion of the Annual Meeting at which they were elected. Elected Directors shall serve for a term of

two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified, while maintaining staggered terms among them. ~~The elected members of the Board shall appoint such additional directors, not exceeding five, as they deem necessary to carry out the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.~~

Sec. 2. Qualifications. All ~~elected and appointed~~ officers and directors of this organization must be voting members of the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country.

Sec. 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors ~~by reason of the resignation, death or disqualification~~ of an officer or director ~~elected-member~~ may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Three consecutive absences from a Board meeting of any member without a valid reason **shall may** be deemed a resignation.

Sec. 5. Meetings. At least seven regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held annually, at such time and place as the Board may determine. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directions and shall call a special meeting on the written request of a quorum of members of the Board. **Board of Directors should receive one week notification of any special meeting.**

### ARTICLE VII Meetings

~~Sec.1. Membership Meetings. There shall be at least four meetings of the membership each year, the date and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.~~

Sec. **12.** Annual Meeting. An Annual Meeting shall be held between March 15 and May 15 of each year, the date and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Sec. **23.** Quorum. Twenty percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum at ~~all general and the~~ annual meeting of the League of Women Voters of the Copper Country: ~~Houghton County.~~

### ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections

Sec. 3. Election. **At the Annual Meeting,** ~~t~~The election shall be by ballot, except that if there is only one nominee for each office, the election shall be by voice vote. A majority vote of those members present and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

## Developing a committee to celebrate 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Women's Suffrage

After a fight beginning in the 1840's and lasting more than 70 years, the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment giving women the right to vote was officially adopted by the United States on August 26, 1920. The centenary of the enfranchisement of more than half the population is less than a year away, and we want to mark it appropriately here in the Copper Country.

A meeting is being organized by local community members to take place Saturday, March 9 at 1pm at the Portage Lake District Library. We're calling out to League members for volunteers to help plan the League's participation in this celebration and to supply interested volunteers to make all the centenary events successful. If willing to help, please attend the meeting (you may contact the League board at [lwvccmi\\_board-1@mtu.edu](mailto:lwvccmi_board-1@mtu.edu)).

The League of Women Voters (LWV) was founded in 1920 as an outgrowth of the women's suffrage movement. An early participant in the struggle to gain women the right to vote was the National American Woman Suffrage Association, the LWV was born during the NAWSA convention of 1920. For more information see NAWSA (<https://www.lwv.org/about-us/history>).

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### Need Up to Two Delegates to go to State Convention

This year's Convention in Livonia will celebrate the **100th birthday of the League of Women Voters of Michigan and the 100th anniversary of suffrage for Michigan women**. The Convention promises to be informative, productive and fun. State Convention provides us with an opportunity to conduct important business of the state League as well as an opportunity to participate in workshops, learn more about the League and renew friendships with League members across the state. Our local League can send two delegates this year. Based on our budget \$1,000, we can cover expenses for transportation, housing at the hotel, registration fees and some meals. Please contact Mary Marchaterre at [mmmarcha@mtu.edu](mailto:mmmarcha@mtu.edu) or 483-2291 if you are interested in attending.

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### Volunteer Opportunities

Please contact Mary Marchaterre at [mmmarcha@mtu.edu](mailto:mmmarcha@mtu.edu) or 483-2291 for the following opportunities.

- Observer Corps - contact Linda Belote at [lbelote@mtu.edu](mailto:lbelote@mtu.edu) or 483-0552.
- Need help with updating and maintaining our Facebook page.
- Need one more volunteer for the Budget committee to meet in February.
- Nominating committee need another volunteer to help before April.
- Equal Pay Day event April 2, 11:30-12:30 – need cookies and help distributing information in front of Husky statue.
- 100 year anniversary of League in 2020.

### LWVCC Board for 2018 - 2019

<b>President</b> <b>Leah Bectel</b>	<b>616-719-6085</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Observer Corps</b> <b>Linda Belote</b>	<b>483-0552</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Natural Resources</b> <b>Kristine Bradof</b>	<b>482-0446</b>
<b>Treasurer</b> <b>Mary Marchaterre</b>	<b>483-2291</b>
<b>Secretary</b> <b>Taryn Mason</b>	<b>231-1713</b>
<b>Electoral Process</b> <b>Faith Morrison</b>	<b>487-9703</b>
<b>Director at Large</b> <b>Barry Fink</b>	<b>482-4632</b>
<b><u>Off Board</u></b>	
<b>Education</b> <b>Martha Sloan</b>	<b>369-4184</b>
<b>Voter Editor</b> <b>Linda Ott</b>	<b>487-2315</b>
<b>Voter Service</b> <b>Kathy Flagstadt</b>	<b>399-0721</b>
<b>Website Editor</b> <b>Shellie Crisman</b>	<b>523-6299</b>

*At present, our country needs women's idealism and determination, perhaps more in politics than anywhere else.*

Shirley Chisholm  
1924-2005  
First black woman elected to US congress.



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)

**Membership**

Individual Dues (\$60)

Household Dues (\$90)

Student Dues (Free)

**Suggested Donation of \$10**

Kay LaRue Scholarship (\$\_\_\_\_)

Education Fund {\$\_\_\_\_}

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