



League of Women Voters of the Kalamazoo Area

April 2013

www.lwvka.org

Co-Presidents: Paula Manley and Michele McGowen

Vol. 58 No. 7

League Phone: 269-544-0303

LWVKA Annual Meeting

By Amy Sue Manley

The LWVKA Annual Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2013, at the Fetzer Center on the WMU campus. The meeting begins at 5:30 p.m.; the guest speaker **Lori Mercedes** of the Hispanic American Council, will discuss immigration.

The cost for dinner will be \$30 with a cash bar available at 5:30 p.m. Entree choices include salmon, grilled chicken, flat iron steak or stuffed portabella mushroom caps.

The LWVKA Annual Meeting is an opportunity to see old friends, meet new League members, and learn more about important issues like immigration. Guests are welcome. We hope to see you on April 29! **Look for your invitation in the mail.**

LWVMI State Convention

“Powering Our Voices” is the theme of this year’s LWVMI State Convention. It will be held Friday, May 17 through noon on Sunday, May 19 at the Radisson Hotel in Lansing. On Friday, a special pre-convention training on membership development, leadership development and advocacy will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Guest speakers during the convention include **Phil Powers** from the Center of Michigan who will speak on the “Public’s Agenda for Public Education” at the Saturday luncheon. In addition, **Rich Robinson** from the Michigan Campaign Finance Network will present the latest on campaign finance issues at the Sunday breakfast, and former US Congresswoman **Lynn Rivers** will speak at the Saturday evening Awards Banquet.

LWVKA is allocated eight delegates. If anyone would like to be a delegate, please contact **Paula Manley** or **Michele McGowen** at President@lwvka.org. The local League will pay your registration fee. Any League member is welcome to attend part or all of the convention as an observer. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the League at the state level and to meet League members from around the state.

Calendar

Apr. 15 Michigan Environmental Council Regional Meeting

Mon. West Olive, MI
11:30 am Contact Connie Ferguson for
- 3 pm more information. (LWVMI is a
member of MEC.)

LWVKA Board Meeting

There will be no April Board Meeting due to the Annual Meeting.

Apr. 29 LWVKA Annual Meeting

Mon. Fetzer Center, WMU
5:30 pm Save the date.

May 9 YWCA Women of Achievement Dinner

Thurs. Watch for your invitation

May 17-19 State Convention in Lansing

Fri.-Sun. Radisson Hotel, Lansing

Note: Board meets on 3rd Tuesdays. Members are welcome to attend all Board Meetings.

**Young or old,
Tall or thin,
When we all pay taxes
We all win!**

New Members—Welcome!

New members— varied talents.

Dawn Haley has no previous experience with the League of Women Voters, but heard that LWVKA was in need of a treasurer. She recently joined the League and agreed to take on the challenge of the treasurer position.

Dawn was born in South Bend, but has lived in the Kalamazoo area since she was five. She graduated from Portage Central High School and Western Michigan University, and is employed at Stryker where she is the Financial Controller for Interventional Spine. She lives in Portage with her husband and son.

Dawn enjoys oil painting and sewing, and she especially likes to remodel houses. She also enjoys anything outdoors including gardening and walking with her son at the Nature Center.

Topsy Schlegel is originally from Chicago and received early education in Iowa and Massachusetts. She graduated from Vassar with a major in geology.

Topsy moved to Kalamazoo in 1990 with her daughter and son. Her job experiences are varied, including real estate consulting in New York, running a hotel in the Chicago area, and working for an agricultural products broker near Three Rivers, MI.

Her volunteer work typically involves application of her accounting skill. Topsy is currently serving as treasurer of the Ladies' Library Association, which is a challenge during their ongoing expansion. She also serves on the construction committee for that effort.

Topsy is a Master Gardener and loves being in her yard. She also enjoys reading and needle work. Diane Worden encouraged Topsy to join the League.

Kristine Pioch grew up in the Kalamazoo area, graduating from Mattawan High School and then from Central Michigan University with a degree in journalism. For

eight years, she worked as a reporter and editor for two newspapers in the Houston, Texas area.

Kristine returned to Kalamazoo to work for the *Gazette* where she was news editor and ran the copy desk for several years. She is currently employed as Event Coordinator at The Association for Behavior Analysis International in Portage.

Kristine is a breast cancer survivor (8 years) and is active in Susan G. Komen for the Cure and is on the Board for Access Breast Cancer Screenings to provide mammograms for low income women. Her hobbies include reading, music, and movies.

Welcome New Members

Jon Hoadley & Kris Dieterman

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Kalamazoo, MI 49008
269-290-1427
jon.hoadley@gmail.com

Dawn Haley

7856 Wapiti St.
Portage, MI 49002
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dawn.haley@stryker.com

Flegal & Tibbitts

Certified Public Accountants

2750 Old Centre, Suite 150
Portage, Michigan 49024
Phone (269) 383-1900

202 Trowbridge Street
Allegan, Michigan 49010
Phone (269) 673-2222

News From National and State

From LWVUS

ACTION ALERT! Tell the U.S. Senate to keep the Budget Clean

Stand up today and tell your Senators that the environment is not a bargaining chip in the federal budget. Tell them to put people before polluters by protecting our environment, fighting climate change and saying no to the Keystone XL Pipeline. For more information, see www.lwv.org.

League sends letter to U.S. House on Gun Safety Legislation

The [League sent a letter](#) to the U.S. House of Representatives encouraging them to consider common sense solutions to gun violence issues.

League Submits Comments on Proposed Health Insurance Applications

The [League submitted comments](#) to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regarding the application developed by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) for entrance into the Exchange and Insurance Affordability Programs. These comments encourage the full compliance of the application and the application process developed by HHS with the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA). The NVRA states that “all offices in the State that provide public assistance” must be voter registration agencies. Clearly the Exchange and Insurance Affordability Programs are a form of public assistance; Medicaid and the CHIP program are currently included in the NVRA mandate.

Election Legislation Continues to be a Hot Topic in State Legislatures

Numerous elections related bills are working their way through state legislatures this month. The ever-present threat of photo ID legislation is on the move in North Carolina and Arkansas. In Michigan a bill (HB4478) was introduced to allow voters with disabilities to sign with signature stamps.

From LWVMI

Equal Pay Day is the day of the year on which women's wages catch up to men's. It was originated in Michigan by the Pay Equity Network and adopted by the National Committee on Pay Equity (NCPE) in 1996 as a public awareness event to illustrate the gap between men's and women's wages. Equal Pay Day symbolizes how far into 2013 women must work to earn what men earned in 2012. People wear red on Equal Pay Day to symbolize that women and minorities are "in the red" with regard to their pay. This year's observance is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, at the Rotunda in the State Capitol Building in Lansing from noon to 1:00 p.m. Optional lobbying training, to be held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will take place from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Lobbying training registration is \$5.00, and light refreshments will be available at 9:30 a.m. [Download the registration form](#). Contact [Judy Karandjeff](#) with questions.

League of Women Voters General Fund Statement of Revenues and Expenditures Budget Year July 2013—June 2014

REVENUES

Membership Dues	\$7,500.00
Members Contributions	1,800.00
Non-Member Contributions	300.00
<i>Bulletin</i> Sponsors	100.00
Fund Raising Sales	140.00
Annual Meeting Income	1,000.00
Women's Equality Day	100.00
Interest Income	<u>100.00</u>

Total Revenues **\$11,040.00**

EXPENDITURES

Office Expense	\$200.00
Postage, Bulk Mail, PO Box	700.00
Telephone	525.00
Website	135.00
<i>Bulletin</i> Expense	1,200.00
Finance Drive Expense	300.00
External Organizational Dues	100.00
National PMP	4,200.00
State PMP	3,000.00
Sponsorship	350.00
Meeting Costs	30.00
Annual Meeting Expense	1,000.00
Advocacy	500.00
National/State Convention	900.00
Membership Recruitment	<u>400.00</u>

Total Expenditures **\$13,540.00**

Total Revenues & Expenditures **\$(2,500.00)**

Budgeted Draw from General Fund Reserves **\$2,500.00**

“The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement. Join us in making democracy work!”

THE BULLETIN is published monthly by
The LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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Advertise in the *Bulletin*!

Interested in reaching a discerning local audience with your advertising message? For only \$50, your business card-sized announcement will appear in the *Bulletin* at least 6 times in one year. The *Bulletin* reaches approximately 150 highly engaged, community-oriented League members in the Kalamazoo area. For more information, please contact **Cheryl Lyon-Jenness** at 269-344-6523 or cheryl.lyon-jenness@wmich.edu.

Got Any News?

LWVKA Board Members and active committee members do their best to keep current on local government developments. Help is always appreciated. If you are aware of activities that may be of interest to other League members or if there are developments that you feel the League should be monitoring, let us know. Share that information with the League by calling 544-0303 or emailing president@lwvka.org.