



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF ALPENA COUNTY

APRIL 2009 NEWSLETTER

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ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
 5 TO 7:30 P.M.
 MONDAY, APRIL 20
 ALPENA GOLF CLUB
 1135 E. GOLF COURSE ROAD
 FOR RESERVATIONS,
 CALL LEONA
 354-3934 BY APRIL 14

ANNUAL MEETING — PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE
Monday, April 20 5:00 to 7:30 pm Alpena Golf Club

Visiting, League business, dining, learning about regional economic development plans...all are on the agenda for our annual dinner meeting. **Lee Shirey, Chief Economic Officer for Target Alpena will update us on their plans. Join us at 5 for a social (half) hour; the meeting will start promptly at 5:30.**

New annual reports will be given out (to put in your blue notebooks), dues will be collected, officers and board members will be elected, and future plans and budget will be discussed. **Below are the Bylaws and Nominating Committee reports, and the proposed budget: those items will be voted on at the meeting. We will also be reviewing and voting on whether to retain or revise our local positions, found on pages 16 to 20 of the 2008 Annual Meeting Booklet. The changes recommended in the Program Planning meeting are described below.**

Our “down-home” dinner will be baked chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, tossed salad, rolls, beverage of choice (coffee, tea or pop) topped off with a light dessert. The cost is \$13.00, including tip and tax. **Guests, especially spouses, are welcome.**

Please call in reservations to Leona, 354-3934, by Tuesday, April 14.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ DUES ARE DUE ! \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

When you come to the annual meeting, please bring your \$50 for annual dues. Make checks out to League of Women Voters of Alpena County and give them to Leona Wisniewski. The \$50 dues are now 20 cents short of covering our state and national payments per member.

Wanted----Wanted----Wanted:
Donations for a basket to be auctioned at State Convention
Theme: A Taste of N.E. Michigan

Suggestions: Margot Dorn is bringing Stoney Acres Wine, so how about -
Gourmet chocolates - Crackers- Assessories-
Cheese- Sauces- Use your imagination!

Bring your donations to the Annual Mtg. on April 20th.
Have something else to donate? Contact Marcia Aten for a donation form.

LWV Proposed Budget 2009 - 2010

	Actual YTD(3/31/09)	Budget 2008-09	Budget 2009-10
Income			
Finance Drive/Contributions:			
Education Fund	0.00	225.00	200.00
Member	0.00	25.00	300.00
Non-Member	0.00	375.00	400.00
Dues	1,550.00	1,550.00	1,600.00
Fundraisers	775.00	750.00	725.00
Grant Income	975.00	365.30	0.00
<u>Interest Earned</u>	<u>4.67</u>	<u>7.00</u>	<u>5.00</u>
Total Income	3,304.67	3,297.30	3,230.00
Expenses			
Board and Administrative:			
Fundraisers	16.80	50.00	25.00
Membership	50.82	50.00	50.00
Guest/Speaker Dinner	8.00	0.00	30.00
<u>Honorary Membership</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total Board and Administrative	125.62	150.00	155.00
Bulletin	0.00	50.00	50.00
Convention & workshops	1,117.45	500.00	500.00
Education Activities:			
Publications	0.00	25.00	25.00
Voter Service	1863.00	500.00	250.00
<u>Leadership Alpena</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>	<u>250.00</u>
Total Education Activities	2,113.00	775.00	525.00
League Financial Support			
National	863.00	846.30	973.50
<u>State</u>	<u>651.00</u>	<u>651.00</u>	<u>693.00</u>
Total League Financial Support	1,514.00	1,497.30	1,666.50
Operating Expenses:			
Annual Meeting Booklet	78.40	70.00	80.00
Annual Meeting Misc.	0.00	50.00	31.50
Insurance	20.80	25.00	22.00
Postage,Phone, Misc.	29.90	10.00	10.00
Website fee	160.00	160.00	160.00
<u>Web Domain fee</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	<u>20.00</u>
Total Operating Expenses	289.10	315.00	323.50
Position Support	0.00	10.00	10.00
Total Expenses	5,159.17	3,297.30	3,297.30

Note: Budget does not reflect in-kind contributions and services

Submitted by the Budget Committee: Leona Wisniewski, Nancy Hammond

BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee, consisting of Marcia Aten, Dottie Haase and Leona Wisniewski, suggests the following change:

In Article XIII: Amendments, Section 1

These by-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, **add: OR AT A REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING**, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Reason: This fall it appeared we would have to change our fiscal year to conform to the state League in order to file a required form with the IRS, but the by-laws do not permit changes between Annual Meetings; therefore we could not file the required form on time. Fortunately, there is no penalty for filing late this year, and the State league learned that we did not have to conform fiscal years after all. We feel it may be prudent, however, to have permission in the by-laws to amend them if necessary between annual meetings.

In considering the fiscal year change, we discussed the possibility of changing the annual meeting from April to May, giving more time to include financial information in the Annual Report, another regular meeting opportunity before the summer, and more of our “snow birds” might be able to attend. If the membership would like to consider that option, the by-laws change required would be:

Article VII: General Membership Meetings, Section 2: Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting **shall be held in (change April to) MAY**, the exact date and time to be determined by the Board of Directors, and notification made to members one month in advance. ...

To review the current bylaws, refer to page 21-24 of the 2008 Annual Meeting Booklet

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Nominated Officers

Co-Presidents	Pauline Buchner	2009-2011
	Sue Lawson	2009-2011

Co-Secretaries	Margot Dorn	2009-2011
	Dottie Haase	2009-2011

Nominated Board Members	Bonnie Friedrichs	2009-2011
	Vernie Nethercut	2009-2011
	Janet Smoak	2009-2011

Nominating Committee	June Perry	2009-2010
	[nominations will be taken from the floor]	2009-2010

Present Officers

Vice President	Florence Stibitz	2008-2010
Treasurer	Leona Wisniewski	2008-2010

Present Board Members	Marie Gilmet-Dully	2008-2010
	Sue Maxwell	2008-2010
	Nancy Hammond	2008-2010

Submitted by the Nominating Committee: Ronnie Stevens, Janet Smoak, Vernie Nethercut

PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS

Our local league reviewed our local positions at our January Meeting and we will vote on possible changes at annual meeting. Members recommended we retain our positions on the Hospital, Recreation, Library, Negwegon, and Sinkholes.

We discussed updating the following positions: County Coordinator, to reflect the creation of the position; School, to include music, art and physical education for secondary education as well as primary education; Alcohol Related Driving Offenses, to include drug related offenses (change language to substance abuse related.)

We recommended re-study of Solid Waste and Greenbelt Zoning positions, providing there are volunteers to participate in the studies. Please refer to positions on pages 16 to 18 of the 2008 annual meeting booklet.

STATE LEAGUE NEWS

Revisions to the current **LWVMI Position on Intergovernmental Relations** were approved at the February 14 State Board meeting. They are the result of the consensus process on local governance which we participated in a year ago. The revised position will be included along with other state positions when delegates vote to retain them at the State Convention in May. If you would like to see the recommended changes, contact Marcia Aten.

The state board has approved **Prison Re-study Consensus Questions and Background Information** for use by Local Leagues and MAL Units. Although consensus responses will not be due until next year, the materials are available now for Local Leagues to plan a program on the Prison Re-study. At the May State Convention, the state board will recommend that the study be extended for another year.

The League of Women Voters of Michigan and Henry Ford Community College present
The 21st Century Voter: Promoting Michigan Voter Power
9:00 am – 3:30 pm Mazzara Conference Center
Friday, April 24, 2009 Henry Ford Community College – Dearborn, MI

Conference Highlights

Luncheon Speaker

**Fair and Impartial Courts:
The Election of Michigan
Supreme Court Justices**
The Honorable Marilyn Kelly
Chief Justice
Michigan Supreme Court

Opening Address

21st Century Voting: Innovations in State Election Laws
Jocelyn Benson
Assistant Professor of Law, Wayne State University

Panel Discussion

Revisiting Term Limits
Senator Michael D. Bishop
Senate Majority Leader
Representative Andy Dillon
Speaker of the House
Dr. Richard Cole
Professor, Michigan State University
Dr. Marjorie Sarbaugh-Thompson
Professor, Wayne State University

For registration and fee information: visit lvvmi.org or call 517-484-5383

STATE CONVENTION IS COMING! Delegate wanted.....

The LWVMI State Convention will be held May 15-17, 2009, at the Sheraton Lansing Hotel. Members are encouraged to experience the entire Convention from Friday through Sunday. In addition to the official activities of convention, Lansing is celebrating its sesquicentennial. The LWV of Lansing will supply information about activities occurring in the city. This year's convention theme is the **League of Women Voters in the 21st Century**.

The Board has appointed Pauline Buchner and Sue Lawson as delegates, but **we are entitled to 3 delegates**, and others may attend. Registrations are due to the state office by April 15; after that date, registrations will incur a late charge . **Hotel reservations must be made by April 24th.**

The registration fee is \$125 and includes the following:

- All convention materials
- The following meals
 - * Saturday breakfast with presentation by Kay Perry, Citizen Access to Government
 - * Saturday luncheon session with Dianne Wheatley-Giliotti, liaison from LWVUS
 - * Saturday banquet with awards and guest speaker Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land
 - * Sunday morning breakfast opportunity to connect with other Local Leagues
- A choice of workshops (see registration form)
- 3 Plenary sessions – Friday evening, Saturday morning, and Sunday morning.

If you are interested, please contact Marcia Aten or Sue Lawson.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
April 20, Mon. 5:00 PM	Annual Dinner Meeting, Alpena Golf Club
April 29, Wed. 3:30 PM	(NOTE NEW DATE), Board Meeting, ACC, 107D
May 15-17	LWV State Convention in Lansing

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MISSION STATEMENT

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

League of Women Voters of Alpena County Board

Co-Presidents Marcia Aten, Sue Lawson
Vice President Florence Stibitz
Co-Secretaries Pauline Buchner, Margot Dorn
Treasurer Leona Wisniewski
Marie Gilmet-Dully, Voter Service
Dottie Haase, Voter Editor
June Perry, River & Lakefront Development
Nancy Hammond, LWV-US Delegate
Sue Maxwell, Environment
Vernie Nethercut, Public Relations

<p>LWV OF ALPENACOUNTY WEBSITE: www.lwvalpenacounty.org</p> <p>LWV MICHIGAN WEBSITE: www.lwvmi.org</p>
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