



LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®

Midland Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE MIDLAND AREA

Volume 42, Number 9

May 2010

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Newsletter

CALENDAR 2010

- May 4** **VOTE! School Board Election**, 7 am to 8 pm, your polling place. Three candidates, Lynn M. Baker, John E. Kaminski and Joseph A. Trombka II, are competing for two places on the board.
- May 5** **Board Meeting**, Conference Room C, Grace A. Dow Library, 1 pm
- May 26** **Annual Meeting**, Tuscan Hall, D'Allessandro Villa, 801 Wackerly, 6 pm social, 6:30 pm dinner
- June 2** **Annual Picnic**, Jenifer Kusch's, 954 Crooked Tree Lane, 7 pm

MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AT ALL MEETINGS. COME AND BRING A FRIEND!



ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held at D'Allessandro Villa on May 26. Social hour begins at 6 pm with dinner at 6:30 pm. The program will feature Gary Skory, Director of the Midland County Historical Society and Heritage Park. A short, but important, business meeting will follow at 8 pm. Members will be asked to vote on the local program for 2010-11; elect officers and directors; adopt the local budget; and take action on a By-Laws amendment.

An outstanding Italian menu is offered at a per person cost of \$25. Please send your reservation to Sandy Burmester by May 17. An extra reservation form is printed on page 4. The traditional book sale for the Annual Fund will be part of the evening. Please bring your books to exchange with League members. You will be sure to find some interesting summer reading!

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

By now you have received your mailing for the Annual Meeting. Hopefully you've sent in your dinner choice and have the date marked on your calendar. If you've been putting it off, take some time right now to (1) decide you'll come, (2) put the event on your calendar, (3) choose what you'll eat, (4) mail your dinner choice and check to Sandy Burmester, and (5) familiarize yourself with the business items. We're going to have a nice evening together. Your being there will make the gathering more enjoyable for all of us...and we need to be sure we have a quorum!

Several of us met for breakfast at Donna DeVinney's house in late February to talk about Program for next year. The Program proposal recommended by the Board of Directors that came in your Annual Meeting mailing resulted from that discussion. The Bylaws provide that voting members may submit other Program recommendations for consideration at the Annual Meeting, but those items "must have been sent to the membership at least two (2) weeks prior to the Annual Meeting..." Such recommendations will also require special votes at the Annual Meeting as outlined in Article IX, Section 3., d), 1) through 3). Therefore, as you go over the recommended Program, if there are other topics you want included, be sure to notify me so that we can get the information to our members by May 12. That's the cut-off date for "two weeks prior to the Annual Meeting."

This was my first year ever to be President of the League. Boy, oh boy! There sure are a lot of details to know about and tasks to carry through on! Everyone's been terrific in reminding me about things that I've nearly missed doing. Okay, they've also been absolutely wonderful in helping me get stuff done that I don't quite understand and that I'm almost behind schedule on! Nevertheless, I'm sure there are many changes we can and should be considering. I'd really like to hear from every member possible how you're feeling about our local League.

Here's the assignment: Send a short e-mail or note that begins, "I wish we could..." or "I wish we would have..." or "Wouldn't it be fun if we..." or "Maybe we should..." Address mail to our post office box: LWV of the Midland Area, PO Box 1203, Midland, MI 48641-1203. Address e-mail to our web site: league@lwg-midland.org. I'm sure there are some excellent ideas just waiting to be shared and explored.

Karen Sherwood, President

90 Years in Photos: the 1960's

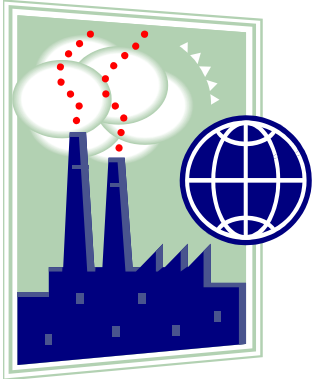
In response to the growing civil rights crisis of the 1960s the League directed its energies to equality of opportunity and built a solid foundation of support for equal access to education, employment and housing. In 1969, the League was one of the first organizations calling for the United States to normalize relations with China.



League members participate in Voting is People Power Project. Credit: Flint, Michigan Journal

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

-From Mary Wilson President, LWVUS via e-mail



Why is climate legislation

important? The scientific evidence is clear: climate change, caused largely by human emissions of greenhouse gases, is already threatening our health and causing environmental damages. . .

MIDLAND VOTER GOING DIGITAL

This will be the last print issue of the *Midland Voter*. Beginning with the new program year in September, this newsletter will be published digitally via e-mail. The file size and PDF format will be appropriate for all computers and e-mail servers. The *Midland Voter* will continue to be available on the Midland Area League web site.

The Board took this decision in large part because the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter (approximately \$1.55 per copy) represents a substantial portion of the annual budget. Adopting the available technology allows us to incorporate hyperlinks, add color, and shorten deadlines as well as drop the cost to virtually zero.

In August the newsletter editor will e-mail you to confirm that the right information is on file. If you do not have an e-mail address and you are not able to log on to the League web site, we will arrange for you to receive a print out of the digital issue.

What next? These disturbing trends will continue and worsen substantially unless we make serious changes. The League supports legislation that includes:

- A **declining cap on greenhouse gases** that reduces U.S. emissions at least 25% by 2020 and 80-95% by 2050;
- Funding to **help the poorest countries** deal with these emerging problems;
- A 10-year **moratorium on new coal plants** to restrict greenhouse gas emissions;
- Investments in a new **clean energy economy**, including wind, conservation and efficiency programs that will secure energy supplies, foster innovation, and create new jobs.

ANNUAL PICNIC CLOSSES PROGRAM YEAR



The annual year end picnic will be June 2 at Jenifer Kusch's, 954 Crooked Tree Lane. All members are invited. Carpooling is encouraged due to the limited parking next to the house. Please bring a dish to pass. Table service and beverages will be provided. The picnic celebrates the end of the program year and provides an opportunity to hear about the national convention and meet new Board members. Current Board members should have completed records retention review of their files and notebook.

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Save the Date!
Annual Meeting May 26

Address Block

Here's an extra mail-in dinner selection form for the Annual Meeting. Don't miss this event! Sandy Burmester needs to hear from you by Monday, May 17, so she can finalize arrangements.

-----Cut here and mail this form with your check.-----
Dinner choices: PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR CHOICE (Print your name on the back of this form.)

- 1. Vitello Piccante – Tender breaded veal sautéed in a lemon wine sauce**
- 2. Conchiglie di Mare – Large pasta shells stuffed with shrimp, lobster, ricotta cheese, celery, green onion, garlic, parmesan cheese and spices. Baked in the oven and topped with a lobster bisque cream sauce.**
- 3. Pollo Asiago – A lightly breaded chicken breast served with a side of fettuccine topped with a delicious asiago cheese sauce and vegetable**

Plate dinner cost: \$25.00/person (tip is included)

Make check payable to LWV of Midland Area

Send this form by May 17 to: Sandy Burmester, 310 W. Nelson, Midland, MI 48640