



# Midland Voter

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE MIDLAND AREA

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Newsletter

## CALENDAR

- January 14: Board meeting @ Julie Schmidt's home: 2412 St. Mary's Drive, 7 p.m.
- January 25: General meeting: State Program Planning, Rosemary Wilson's home: 4113 Cruz Drive, 9:15 a.m. **(Brunch: Please bring a dish to pass.)**
- February 11: Board meeting @ Julie Schmidt's home: 2412 St. Mary's Drive, 7 p.m.
- February 27: General meeting: Local Program Planning, Donna DeVinney's home: 14 Dartmoor Place, 7 p.m.
- April 11: Joint program with Chippewa Nature Center: "Water Diversion of the Great Lakes": time and place to be announced
- May 13: Board meeting @ Julie Schmidt's home: 2412 St. Mary's Drive, 7 p.m.
- May 21 Annual Meeting: time and place to be announced

Board meetings and *all LWV meetings* are open to Midland LWV members and friends

**First Meeting of 2003 Begins with Brunch  
Saturday, January 25, 2003  
Rosemary Wilson's Home, 4113 Cruz Drive  
9:15 a.m. Brunch – Bring a dish to pass**

Begin the new year with a congenial social gathering followed by a look at some of the issues facing state government. The State League is asking all local units to pick *two topics for emphasis* rather than full fledged studies for the 2003-04 year.

This would include current position topics, either for examination with possible change or advocacy, or new topics. The Board would consider a new study if there is enough interest. For its part, the Board will continue to propose the ongoing update to the Great Lakes Position which is to continue through 2005.

Short summaries of new topics suggested by the State League will be presented at the meeting. Individual members are invited to bring new ideas to be presented for consideration. Topics suggested are:

**Freedom of Information Act:** Application at local, county and state levels.

**Campaign Ethics:** Public disclosures, citizen information.

**Urban Sprawl:** Advocacy and citizen information.

**Local Government:** Number of units, inter-governmental relations, mergers of like units.

**Referendum and Initiative:** Use, abuse and how it is done in other states.

**Apportionment:** Redistricting, multimember districts, run-off elections.

**State Budget and Delivery of Local Services:**

Proposal A, Headlee Amendment, tax structure.

There will be time for discussion and proposals of any new topics after the presentations.

**MEET TWO NEW MEMBERS**

**JEAN TREADWAY**

Jean comes to us from Bay City where she served as President of the LWV there. She is now retired after 25 years at Delta College where she taught Physical Education. She has three children and two grandchildren—one of them in Midland and one in Auburn. While she loves to travel, she has not had time as yet to do enough of that. Too busy being a grandmother. She likes to dance, enjoying all types of dance, including folk music and dance. She especially enjoys being near the Center for the Arts here in Midland and volunteering for many of the functions there.

**SHARLENE KRUGER**

Sharlene and her husband live on Sanford Lake. They have two children, one in Cleveland and one in Detroit, plus three grandchildren. She is now retired but was the Director of Victims Services for Mothers Against Drunk Driving. She is on the Board of Temple Beth El and her husband serves on the Board of the Rail Trail organization. They are avid bicyclists, cycling in Europe as well as Michigan. They also enjoy cross-country skiing. Sharlene expressed an interest in working on Voters Service.

League of Women Voters  
Of the Midland Area  
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The Midland Area League of Women Voters Bulletin is published nine times a year; not in December, July or August

**Local Program Planning Set for  
Thursday, February 27, 7 p.m.  
Donna DeVinney's Home, 14 Dartmoor Place**

For those who are new, or who naturally suppress LWV mechanisms, the February meeting, called Local Program Planning, will be dedicated to reviewing Midland League positions and discussing new ideas for further study or actions. The results of this meeting, after the Board reviews them, will be formally approved (or disapproved) at the Annual Meeting in May.

The February meeting will have three parts:

**Current Positions:** Which do the members wish to drop, retain or restudy? It will speed up discussion if people refresh their memories on the current program before the meeting. Position statements are available on the web site: [www.lwv-midland.org](http://www.lwv-midland.org).

If internet access is not convenient, a hard copy can be obtained by calling Fran Hamburg at 631-4769.

**Revised Planning Position:** For the past two years a committee has been working to update our local Planning Positions. They expect to have a proposed revision ready at this meeting for member input.

**New Program Items:** Is there a current position we want to emphasize for action?

- Is there one to update?
- Is there an entirely new topic we'd like to study and come to consensus about, such as:
  - the county jail (explore present position for action or revise if needed);
  - environmental concerns;
  - the tax tribunal (and the effects its decision will have on local budgets);
  - public schools or other services for youth (teenage pregnancy and juvenile delinquency are down across the state but up in Midland County).

**All suggestions are welcome.**

Now's the time to think about where you want the League to make its mark next year, discuss with friends and come prepared February 27 for a lively, productive discussion.

