

# The Voter

January 2026

## Events

January 14, 2026  
Advocacy and  
Programming  
Planning Meeting  
7pm  
Zoom

January 17, 2026  
New Member  
Orientation  
10am  
[Grand Traverse Pie  
Company, Plymouth](#)

January 20, 2026  
DEI Book Club  
7pm  
Zoom

January 21, 2026  
Board Meeting  
7pm  
Zoom

January 21, 2026  
[Let Voters Vote  
Webinar \(flyer below\)](#)  
7pm  
Zoom

February 21, 2026  
General Membership  
Meeting  
Details TBD

## In This Issue...

President's Perspective  
Legacy Luncheon Recap  
Membership Update  
Get Involved & Stay Informed  
A Note from the Editor

---

## President's Perspective

What are your priorities? No, really – what do you value the most and are willing to devote your time and energy to? If I were a betting woman, I would bet that family would be on the top of that list. It's on the top of mine.

As a 76 year old mother and grandmother, I find that I am no longer searching for the “perfect” toy or gift. They have outgrown “Elf on the Shelf” and Nana is no longer sledding or wrestling with the little ones. Instead, I am wrestling with what kind of world I am leaving them. That is why I find myself working as hard as I can to save democracy. Long after our heirs have forgotten what they received as gifts, long after they have spent anything they may have been left in a will, they will benefit from living in a county that lives up to the ideals in the Constitution. This has become a priority for me in 2026.

This holiday season, I bought gift memberships to the League for my adult grandchildren. I donated to all three levels of the League ([LWVUS](#), [LWVMI](#), and [LWVNWW](#)) helping to do the work. As I said at last month's Legacy Luncheon, “This is damn inconvenient.” It is inconvenient to use your vacation money to

Visit the League's [calendar page](#) for the latest information about upcoming events



support the League. It is inconvenient to spend all your free time educating, advocating and marching when all you want to do is take your well earned rest. Inconvenient, but necessary.

Happy New Year to all the women and men who are inconvenienced and still show up to DEFEND Democracy. You have your priorities straight. We couldn't do it without you.

Carrie Moon-Dupree

## Honoring the Past, Moving Forward - Legacy Luncheon Recap

On Saturday, December 13, 31 members and 11 guests gathered at the [Van Buren Community Center](#) for a Legacy Luncheon. Guests included a number of young people who were being introduced to the League for the first time.

After general membership business, the group enjoyed lunch and heard from Rep. Reggie Miller and Van Buren Township Supervisor, Kevin McNamara.

Angela Nolan presented *A Century of Voices: The League of Women Voters - Protest, Participation, & Progress Through the Decades*. [Click here to see the presentation](#). Carrie Moon-Dupree then walked through a timeline of women's rights, featuring fashion from each era.

The event concluded with members and guests sharing their concerns and celebrations, encouraging each other to continue the work to defend democracy in 2026 and beyond.



Ann Abdo models suffragette fashion



Carrie Moon-Dupree presents the youngest guest with a gift



Jeannette Gutierrez shows off 1930s accessories



Lisa Martin and her guests

## Membership Update

- 113 active members
- 10 renewals during this last quarter of 2025
- 2 new members
- 4 pending renewals (November expirations)



New Member Orientation is scheduled for Saturday, January 17, 10am at [Grand Traverse Pie Company](#) in Plymouth. Contact [Christina Stark](#) if you plan to attend.

**Reminder to Current Members:** You are always welcome to attend scheduled Orientations (especially if you haven't had a chance to participate in a previously scheduled date). New members welcome conversations about your experience and insight into what WE are doing as a League. It is also a great way to get support and find common threads among our members - you/we are not alone in our effort to defend democracy!

## Get Involved & Stay Informed

There are a number of ways to join in the work to empower voters and defend democracy. We hope you'll join us!

### Advocacy and Programming Planning

On January 14, join an open ended Zoom discussion meant to wrap our arms around the year ahead. 2026 will be a busy year for Voter Service, [Unite and Rise](#), Advocacy, and programming. We'll discuss what's on our plate, what's not, what should be, and how we get the work done. All are welcome to join this conversation. Contact [Carrie Moon-Dupree](#) to join. Links will be sent the 2nd week of January.

### DEI Book Club

On January 20, the DEI Book Club will discuss [The Wisdom of the Native Americans](#), edited by Kent Nerburn. Contact [Laura Jannika](#) for the Zoom link.

### **Observer Corps**

Attend government meetings, watch for good government practices, and bring any issues or concerns to the LWVNW Board. Observers are needed for city councils, boards of trustees, and school boards, and meetings can be attended virtually or in person. Contact [Lena Packer](#) for more information.

### **Text Banking - Permanent Mail Ballot List**

Text banking efforts to encourage voters to sign up for the [permanent mail ballot list](#) will resume this month. Voters whose names are on the permanent mail ballot list will automatically receive an absentee ballot from their local clerk for all upcoming elections. If you would like to participate in text banking, [watch this video](#) for instructions. Once you've watched the video, [click here to get started!](#) Contact [Toni Jones](#) if you have questions.

### **Voter Registration at Schoolcraft College's Winter Bash**

Distribute League and voting information, and register individuals to vote. The Winter Bash will take place on January 27 and 28 from 10am-2pm. Contact [Ann Andrews](#) for more information.

### **Let Voters Vote Webinar**

A webinar hosted by LWVMI. The panel will discuss why documentary proof of citizenship is needless voter suppression, and what we can do to stop it. More details in the flyer below.

[Click here to register](#)

*Let Voters Vote!*

Wednesday  
January 21, 2026  
7pm on Zoom



To Register:



Or at [www.lwvmi.org](http://www.lwvmi.org)

**Why Proposed Documentary Proof of Citizenship (DPOC)  
Is Needless Voter Suppression**

*Presented by*

**The League of Women Voters of Michigan**

*All Are Welcome!*

Hear experts address:

- \* Security and Integrity of Voting
- \* Unnecessary **Red Tape** of DPOC
- \* Impact on Voters in Michigan & across the US

**Panelists**



**Christopher Thomas**  
Former Michigan  
Director of Elections



**Melanie Macey**  
Policy & Government Affairs  
Director at Promote the Vote



**Valencia Richardson**  
Campaign Legal Center,  
Voting Rights Attorney

Questions? Contact [Advocacy@LWVMI.org](mailto:Advocacy@LWVMI.org)

## A Note from the Editor

Moving forward, you will see *The Voter* in your inbox at the beginning of each month rather than every other month. The hope is that more frequent editions will provide timelier, more relevant information for Members.

Thanks for reading and Happy New Year!

Anne Reilly

## League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County

### Board of Directors

**President:** Carrie Moon-Dupree  
**VP at Large:** Sandy Main-Niemisto

**Directors:**  
Ann Andrews      Valerie Nelson

**VP Voter Service:** Toni Jones  
**Secretary:** Linda Priest  
**Treasurer:** Paula Bowman

Laura Jannika  
Lisa Martin

Anne Reilly  
Christina Stark

### Committee Chairs

**Advocacy:** Carrie Moon-Dupree  
**Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion:** Laura Jannika  
**Financial Review:** Dave Baughman  
**Membership:** Christina Stark

**Nominating:** Linda Priest  
**Observer Corps:** Lena Packer  
**Scholarship:** Toni Jones  
**Voter Registration:** Ann Andrews  
**Voter Services:** Toni Jones

### The Voter Editor

Anne Reilly

**League of Women Voters of  
NW Wayne County  
PO Box 51502, Livonia, MI 48151**

Membership in the League is open to anyone age 16 and older.

Join through our [website](#) or by calling 734-748-5564

The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan, political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

[Visit our Website](#)

[Email Us](#)

[Membership Information](#)

[League of Women Voters of Michigan Website](#)

[League of Women Voters of US Website](#)



League of Women Voters of NW Wayne County | PO Box 51502 | Livonia, MI 48151 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!