

League of Women Voters - Oakland Area, Michigan - March 2023 Newsletter and Events

Snow, sleet, rain, and power failures will not interfere with our LWV mission. Hope everyone is surviving this winter adventure. See below for events and volunteer opportunities.

(1) LWVOA's Celebration of National Women's History Month:

Featured Speaker

Gerry Barrons

Date/Time: Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 1-3pm Location: Bloomfield Township Public Library 1099 Lone Pine Road Bloomfield Township, MI 48302 Free and open to the public

Ms. Barrons' life has been committed to opening opportunities and advocating for equality and justice for women.

Her many accomplishments include:

- CEO of the Women's Economic Club;
- President of Michigan Chapter, National Association of Women Business Owners;
- Founding the board of the Sojourner Foundation for Women & Girls;
- Volunteering with Sky Foundation, Inc. (which funds pancreatic cancer research), the League of Women Voters Detroit, and Michigan Women Forward.

Light refreshments will be provided.

For more information, please contact <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u>.

(2) LWV Leelanau County - Women's History Month and International Women's Day: Wednesday, March 8th at 12:00 noon via zoom

Presentation to honor the lives of renowned international, American, and Michigan women.

For more information, please contact <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u>.

(3) LWVOA Community Engagement Committee: Wednesday, March 8th at 4p via zoom

The CEC plans presentations and activities to increase awareness and educate about important issues confronting us today.

Contact Geri Rinschler via <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

4) LWV Washtenaw County - Money In Politics: Thursday, March 9th at 7p via zoom

This is a statewide group to learn, monitor, and encourage awareness of the finances and dark money involved in politics. For more information, please contact LWVOAMi@gmail.com.

(5) LWVOA Advocacy Committee: Wednesday, March 15th at 5:30-6:30p Monitoring local legislative movements in many areas including bail reform, criminal justice, public education, etc.

Reports from the LWVOA Observer Corps, attending more than 8 local school district board meetings, are informative and insightful.

For more information, please contact <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u>.

(6) LWVMI Environmental Network group: Thursday, March 16th at 11a via zoom

Discussion topics include global warming, organic farming, toxic chemicals, and PFAS contamination.

Contact Sandy Sorini-Elser via <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

(7) Abolish the US Electoral College focus group with LWVUS and local Leagues nationwide: Friday, March 17th at 1p via zoom

Information, including the history of the EC and present-day issues, regarding LWV position that the direct-popular vote method for electing the US President and Vice President is essential to representative government.

Contact Maria Woloson via <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

8) LWVOA Board Meeting: Monday, March 27th from 7-8p via zoom Monthly LWVOA meeting discussing business, programs, and events. Contact Maria Woloson via LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.

(9) LWVOA Book Club: Thursday, March 30, 2023, 7-8pm, Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine (Lone Pine and Telegraph), OR Zoom (email Tera if you want the Zoom link)

The Sum of Us: what racism costs everyone and how we can prosper together (2021) by Heather McGhee. A vital, urgent, stirring, beautifully written book that offers a compassionate roadmap out of our present troubled moment.

Please contact Tera Moon via <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

(10) League of Women Voters of Michigan's 2023 Convention. May 19-21 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing

Open to ALL members, new and veteran, to mingle with fellow members, learn about LWV endeavors and join in actions to promote the LWV mission. See www.LWVMI.org for convention details.

(11) LWVOA Annual Luncheon Meeting: Saturday, June 3rd from 10-2pat the Heathers Club of Bloomfield, 900 Upper Scotsborough Way, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

Please join us as LWVOA celebrates another successful year! The event will include a business meeting, luncheon, and a special guest speaker - *Prof. David Dulio*, of Oakland University's Political Science

Department. Presentation is certain to be interesting, engaging, and entertaining. Details regarding cost and reservations to follow. Contact Geri Rinschler via LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.

The Nominating Committee will soon begin work for the LWVOA Annual Meeting in June 2023. LWVOA by-laws, in odd-numbered years (2023), require the following officers to be elected:

- President or two (2) Co-Presidents
- Secretary
- Three (3) Board members
- Three (3) Nominating Committee members

Consider "putting your hat in the ring" or suggesting a fellow LWVOA member for one of these offices.

Position perks include: learning of LWV's wide scope of influence, camaraderie with LWV members, and monthly board meetings with great snacks!

Contact Karen DeGrendel, Nominating Committee Chairperson via <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more information.

Photos from the February 4th planning meeting and brunch.
Thanks to the LWVOA board and all who brought delicious food for our feast. And a BIG thank you to Judy Bateman for opening her home to our group!





A thought from a great historical woman: "I feel safe in the midst of my enemies, for the truth is all-powerful and will prevail."
-Sojourner Truth

James Treharne and Maria Woloson Co-Presidents, League of Women Voters, Oakland Area, Michigan

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