

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

While enjoying the final month of summer, take time to check out LWV events. See below for working group meetings and activities for LWVUS, LWVMI, and LWVOA.

#### 1) LWVOA's Annual Summer Event: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at Beverly Park, 6-8 pm

Located at 18801 Beverly Rd, Beverly Hills, MI 48025.

All LWV members, their families, and friends of ALL AGES are invited to enjoy an evening of fun, food, and festivities.

Activities include LWV trivia, games, prizes, and light refreshments.



Joining us will be presenters focusing on environmental issues:

## Oakland University, Campus Student Organic Farm, with Director, Prof. Fay Hansen

The Campus Student Organic Farm (CSOF) at Oakland University is a community of students, faculty, and staff committed to nourishing the local community through education and community engagement programs as well as fresh healthy food.

## Sierra Club of Michigan

Goals include clean water and air, wild biodiversity, and a safe energy future for EVERYONE!

Among its many efforts are:

\*Raise public awareness of human health and environmental threats. \*Monitor water quality to help enforcement efforts.

## We look forward to seeing you at Beverly Park.

Contact Maria Woloson at LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.

### (2) LWVOA Candidate Forums: City of Rochester, September 27th, 7 pm at Public Library

Additional forums TBD for Birmingham, West Bloomfield, and Royal Oak.

Planning, organizing, and facilitating candidate forums is vital to promoting participation in local elections. The



forum held in Southfield on July 13th was attended by more than 35 residents. Attendees were impressed with the LWVOA's organization and process of the event. Volunteers are needed for this important segment of the voting process in our county with over 60 municipalities and 27 school districts. Contact Judy Bateman at **LWVOAMi@gmail.com** for more info.

#### (3) LWVOA interviews with US Congressional and Michigan Legislature Representatives

Meeting with your local legislature representatives is an important function that LWV does every two years. As the legislature is in recess, August is a good opportunity to meet your legislators. All members are encouraged to participate in this process.



Contact Jim Treharne or Gloria Sirosky at <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

# (4) LWVMI Statewide Firearm Safety Network Group: Tuesday, August 8th at 7 pm via Zoom

This group's focus is with info on Michigan laws that provide background checks, safe storage laws, and extreme risk protection orders (ERPO or red flag laws). Presenters have included Michigan Senator Rosemary Bayer, Moms Demand Action, and other activist groups. LWVMI will prepare educational materials regarding these laws and their enforcement for distribution.

Contact LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.



#### (5) LWVMI - Money In Politics Network: Thursday, August 10th at 7 pm via Zoom

This statewide group informs and encourages awareness of the finances and dark money involved in politics. Monthly speakers provide insight into the secret money in politics. See the

website for a copy of prior presentations. Contact Robbi Duda at <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

# (6) LWVMI Environmental Network group: Thursday, August 17th at 6 pm via Zoom

Join the LWV Environmental Network for a Zoom presentation by Art Hirsch, an environmental advocate focusing on water quality issues affecting the State of Michigan and the Great Lakes Region.

Contact Sandy Sorini-Elser at LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.

## (7) LWVOA Marketing/Communications Working Group

Communication is vital to informing members and the public about important topics in today's world. This group facilitates social media to increase awareness and participation in LWVOA activities. Next in-person meeting TBD.

Contact Leslie Fleming at <u>LWVOA.marcom@gmail.com</u> for more info.



### (8) LWVOA Advocacy Committee and Observer Corps

Reports from the LWVOA Observer Corps, attending more than 8 local school district board meetings, are informative and insightful. All members are welcome to assist after a brief online information session. Next Zoom/in-person meeting TBD.

Contact Deborah Macon and/or Deborah Ross at <u>LWVOAMi@gmail.com</u> for more info.

(9) LWVOA Board Meeting: Monday, August 28th at 7 pm via Zoom
Monthly LWVOA meetings discussing business, programs, and events.
All members are welcome and may participate.
Contact Maria Woloson at LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.



Reminder for Membership Renewal – online payment or printable forms can be accessed via LWVOA.org.

Woman of Environmental Importance: Dr. Sylvia Earle (1935-present) is a distinguished marine biologist and first woman Chief Scientist of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Her lifelong mission has been to raise awareness of the effects of pollution and contamination on ocean wildlife.



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