

League of Women Voters Oakland Area, Michigan March 2025 Newsletter

Spring is around the corner, with lots of activities and programs.

LWVOA presents:

Women's History Month with Speaker Ann Doyle, Pioneer of Women's Rights

Date: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Time: 1:00p Location: Bloomfield Township Public Library



Anne Doyle first made her mark nationally in the late 1970s and early 80s as one of the USA's first women TV sports broadcasters. She was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame for her leadership role in opening sports locker rooms to female journalists.

As a journalist, business executive, elected official, and mother, Ms. Doyle has been tested in some of the toughest leadership laboratories. Her passion for continuous human advancement fuels her work as a global speaker, workshop leader, media commentator, author, and podcast host.

This meeting is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided.

(1) LWVOA: Community Engagement Committee (CEC) work group: Tuesday, March 4th at 4:30p via Zoom

CEC plans activities and functions for all members and the community to participate in. CEC is always open to ideas and welcomes all members to help plan and facilitate programs.

Contact Geri Rinschler at LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.







LWV and numerous partners will participate in peaceful actions to promote the health of our democracy.

See the LWVUS website for details.

(3) "A Dangerous Experiment: Educating Women in the 1800s" with speaker Susan Nenadic: Monday, March 10th at 7p at the BTPL

The great issue of the 19th century was not suffrage but education. Advocates of women's suffrage, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, were educated women. Washtenaw County boasted not only many co-ed high schools but the nation's first normal school west of the Alleghenies. The University of Michigan became a pioneer by admitting women in 1870 and became the foremost university to do so. A university degree allowed women to enter the professional working world and rise to prominent positions in both the state and nation.

Local history expert, retired teacher, and author Susan L. Nenadic explores the challenges women faced in accessing education during this transformative period.

Registration through the Bloomfield Township Public Library is required for this event.

(4) LWVOA Marketing/Communication work group: Wednesday, March 19th at 1p at BTPL

Utilizing social media as well as conventional communications, this group works to publicize and promote LWV events and programs.

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



(5) LWVUS Federal Judiciary Study Consensus Meeting: Wednesday, March 19th at 1:30p at BTPL



At LWVUS Convention 2024, delegates voted to proceed with a study to develop a position on the federal judiciary as an essential component of US democracy. The study's purpose includes addressing concerns and clarifying judicial accountability, transparency, independence, and ethics.

For additional information about the study,

including the study guide, policy papers, timeline, League discussion group, and scope, please visit the League Management Site.

Please direct questions about the study to progplan@lwv.org.

LWVUS Federal Judiciary Study Committee prepared materials for League members to consider at their consensus meetings. Members are also encouraged to view the February 4, 2025 Town Hall meeting with leading experts, including Alicia Bannon of the Brennan Center, Thomas Berry of the CATO Institute, and Errin Martin of NVG LLC that provided additional information.

(6) LWVUS Eliminate the Electoral College work group: Friday, March 21st at 1p via Zoom

Monthly presentations provide information as to the necessity of abolishing the Electoral College by US Constitutional Amendment which is now one of the League's top priorities. Speakers have provided in-depth analysis of current issues with the Electoral College and the history of facilitating change.

This month's focus will be on the process of amending the US Constitution and the 27 times that it has been accomplished. Past presentations may also be viewed.

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

(7) "Nevertheless, She Persisted" Music by American Women Composers including LWVOA member, Susan Wheatley: Sunday, March 23rd at 3p at Orchard Lake Community Church

In celebration of Women's History Month, this concert will include classical, ragtime, jazz, and joyful spirituals. It is open to the public at no charge with an option to give a free-will offering.



(8) LWVOA Board Meeting: Monday, March 24th at 5p via Zoom

LWVOA's board manages and facilitates the business and activities of our local league. All members are welcome to attend.

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



(9) LWVOA Bookclub: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 7p at BTPL

As public libraries have come under intense scrutiny, this month's selection is one of your own choosing from several lists of Banned Books.

Contact Tera Moon at LWVOAMi@gmail.com for more info.



(10) LWVUS new payment system is in effect as of February 2025.

Please see the LWVOA website <u>here</u> for more in-depth information.

Save the Date:

LWVOA Annual Meeting and Luncheon

Speaker: Federal Judge Gerald Rosen

Date: Thursday, May 15th Time: 10:30a Meeting; 11:30a Luncheon/Speaker Location: Heathers Club of Bloomfield



Highlights of February 2025:

WSU Law Prof. Peter Hammer's presentation **"Structural Racism in Metro Detroit"** focused on the totality of ways in which societies foster racial discrimination by reinforcing systems of housing, education, employment earnings, benefits, credit, media, health care, and criminal justice. As Prof. Hammer is also the director of the Damon J. Keith Center for Civil Rights, he shared information on the center and its dedication to promoting the educational, economic, and political empowerment of underrepresented communities in urban areas.

All attendees found the program informative, motivating, and energizing.









"Never underestimate the power of a small group of committed people to change the world. In fact, it is the only thing that ever has." -Margaret Mead



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