

Serving 60 communities and 27 school districts in Oakland County, Michigan

Welcome New Members!

Cherie Abbey
Judith Clemens
Francine Guice
Elaine Frydrych
Maureen Selfon

LWVOA Board of Directors 2017-2019

PRESIDENT Geri Rinschler

1st VICE PRESIDENT

Judy Bateman - Voter Service

2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Tera Moon - Membership

3rd VICE PRESIDENT

Karen DeGrendel - Finance

SECRETARY Eva Packard

TREASURER Mary Howarth

DIRECTORS

Sue Abrams - Administration

Jerry Burden - Candidate Forums

Randa Keener - Environment

Kathleen Maisner - Redistricting

Ann Megalizzi - Redistricting Chair

Jim Treharne - Redistricting

Maria Woloson - At Large

Kim Somky - Voter Editor

OFF-BOARD POSITIONS

Ann Edwards - Mailings

Marcia Femrite - Education

Patricia Finn - Communications

Deb Horner - Voter Guides

Tera Moon - Webmaster

Kathy Henry - Education

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Patricia Finn - Chair

Laura Gogola

Susan Liebetreu

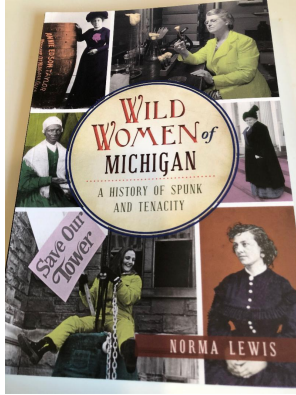
Letter From the President

As I sat down to write my message to you on March 8, I realized it was the celebration of International Women's Day. It is nice to see the media and individuals recognizing this day with much more vigor than in the past. And, since March is Women's History Month, I thought I would share with you a noteworthy book which I discovered on a recent trip to The Henry Ford (THF) museum. As our league is preparing to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the formation of the LWVMI, I thought it would be fun to re-visit the THF exhibit featuring the Women's Suffrage and Civil Rights movements. If you haven't been for a while, it's worth checking out. While in the gift shop, I came across a paperback entitled *Wild Women of Michigan (A History of Spunk and Tenacity)* by Norma Lewis. Published by the History Press, author Lewis writes about Michigan women's achievements that improved our world. There are wonderful old photos from the Library of Congress, and the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. Among the stories, the extraordinary women included are Madame Cadillac, Angelique Mott, Eliza Leggett and Viola Liuzzo. It's only 135 pages, but a fun read.

Our LWVOA board has been busy planning our annual meeting. So, please save the date: Saturday, June 8, 2019. We are very excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be Michigan Supreme Court Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack.

And, I am really excited to share with you that our recently formed, New Program Committee is working on programs and speakers on a variety of topics for July and Fall of 2019. They may also plan a social gathering for our members. More details will be available in future newsletters. Many thanks to Jim Treharne, Charles Carpenter, Kathy Henry, Jenny Alvarez and Nancy Lewis for volunteering. Also, thanks to Susan Liebetreu and Judy Bateman for their work for the upcoming program on April 2. The details of this program are included below.

If you have suggestions for a program which you would like the LWVOA to explore, email us at league@lwvoa.org.



Please consider attending the LWVMI convention on May 17-19. It is in Livonia this year. Details for registration are on www.lwvmi.org.

Happy Spring to everyone!
Geri

Volunteer Opportunities

Register new citizens to vote. Volunteers are needed to help register voters at the New Citizen Naturalization Ceremonies at the Levin Federal Courthouse in downtown Detroit. If you are interested, contact Betsy Cushman of the Dearborn-Dearborn Heights LWV at betsy.cushman@gmail.com or 313-565-5972.

Legislative Interviews. At the start of every new legislative session, the LWVMI Advocacy Committee & the LWVMI Board seek to benefit from input from local League interviews of their State Representative(s) and State Senator(s). These interviews help to establish a relationship with a legislator. That personal contact can be crucial to our future advocacy efforts. The interviews help us determine what issues are important to each legislator, and they help us anticipate what issues might be addressed in the next legislative session. They give legislators who may not be familiar with the League outside of our voter service and candidate forums a sense of what issues our organization follows. They are generally enjoyable discussions. If you are interested in conducting an interview with a legislator, please contact Tera Moon at tlcmoon@gmail.com or 248-376-9368 (call or text). There is a packet of information with questions to ask in the interview which Tera will send you.

They Represent You Brochures. Have you spent more than a few minutes Googling around trying to find contact information for an elected official? So have many others! Which is why local Leagues prepare a brochure with contact information for elected officials at every level. For our League, which serves 60 communities and 27 school districts, this is a job that requires many hands. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Tera Moon at tlcmoon@gmail.com or 248-376-9368 (call or text). Visit <http://www.lwvoa.org/try.html> to review the current brochures.

Oil and Water Don't Mix

Tuesday, April 2 @ 7:00 PM
Bloomfield Township Public Library
1099 Lone Pine Rd (at Telegraph Rd),
Bloomfield Twp 48302

The LWVOA will host Sean McBrearty, Coordinator, Oil and Water Don't Mix. The event will be held at the Bloomfield Township Library Auditorium from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Sean will speak about environmental concerns relating to the Enbridge Oil Company Line 5, the 655-mile-long pipeline which carries synthetic crude oil

Nominating Committee

Each year, prior to the annual meeting, the Nominating Committee meets to put together a slate of board members who will lead LWVOA for the next two years. Office terms are staggered so that not all positions expire at the same time.

This year terms to be elected for two years are President, 2nd VP Membership, Secretary, and three Director positions plus one Director for a one-year term. The Nominating Committee will ask those currently serving if they would like to continue, or will find new people to fill the

through Michigan. Of special concern is the damaged pipeline which has been submerged in the Straits of Mackinac since 1953 and is still in use today. Sean will also update the audience about the status of Governor Whitmer's January 2, 2019 directive to Attorney General Nessel to investigate legislation passed during the lame duck session following the November election. The directive authorizes investigation into whether the legislation, which approved construction of a Line 5 Tunnel under the Straits, complies with the state constitution. Finally, Sean will talk with the group about newly created volunteer opportunities with *Clean Water Action* in Oakland County.

We look forward to learning more from Sean.



roles. The Nominating Committee will present a slate to the membership at the annual meeting.

Thanks to this year's nominating committee: Patricia Finn, Laura Gogola, and Susan Liebetreu. Our bylaws state that two board members will also serve on the nominating committee. They will be Sue Abrams and Tera Moon.

Annual Meeting Update

We are thrilled to present Chief Justice McCormack as our Annual Meeting speaker! Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack joined the Michigan Supreme Court in January 2013, and became Chief Justice in January 2019. Before her election to the Court in November 2012, she was a law professor and dean at the University of Michigan Law School. Since joining the Court, Chief Justice McCormack continues to teach at the Law School.

LWVOA's annual meeting will be held Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Farina's Banquet Center in Berkley, MI. Watch your email for registration details.

LWVMI State Convention

The League's 2019 Convention in Livonia will celebrate the 100th birthday of the League of Women Voters of Michigan and the 100th anniversary of suffrage for Michigan women. The Convention promises to be informative, productive and fun. This gathering permits us to conduct important business of the state League as well as an opportunity to participate in workshops, learn more about the League and renew friendships with League members across the state. While the Oakland Area has eight official voting delegates, everyone is welcome to attend the convention! Visit www.lwvmi.org to register.

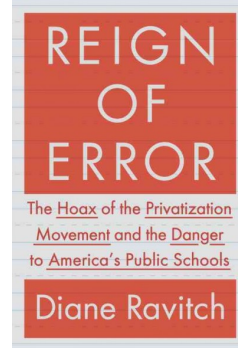
LWVOA Book Club

Do you love to read and talk about books as much as you love League? Join the LWVOA book club! This group is just getting

started reading books that connect to [LWVOA's positions](#) and other issues important to our organization. This is a great way to get to know your fellow League members. Let Tera Moon know if you're coming. Email tlcmoon@gmail.com or call or text 248-376-9368.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 4, 2019 @ 7pm

To discuss *Reign of error : the hoax of the privatization movement and the danger to America's public schools* by Diane Ravitch
Panera Bread, 2508 S Adams Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48309



Upcoming meetings and books:

- Wednesday, May 22 - *The Big Thirst: The Secret Life and Turbulent Future of Water* / Charles Fishman
- Wednesday, July 24 - *Republic, Lost: How Money Corrupts Congress—and a Plan to Stop It* / Lawrence Lessig
- Wednesday, September 25 - *Can Democracy Work?: A Short History of a Radical Idea, from Ancient Athens to Our World* / James Miller
- Wednesday, November 27 - *Political Tribes: Group Instinct and the Fate of Nations* / Amy Chua

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY, APRIL 2 @ 7:00 PM

Oil and Water Don't Mix
Bloomfield Township Public Library Auditorium
1099 Lone Pine Rd (at Telegraph Rd), Bloomfield Twp 48302

THURSDAY, APRIL 4 @ 7:00 PM

Book Club discusses *Reign of Error: the hoax of the privatization movement and the danger to America's public schools* by Diane Ravitch
Panera Bread, 2508 S Adams Rd, Rochester Hills, MI 48309

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, MAY 17-19

LWVMI State Convention, Embassy Suites, Livonia;
Saturday luncheon speaker: LWVUS President Chris Carson. Saturday Banquet speaker: Elaine Weiss, author of "*The Woman's Hour -- The Great Fight to Win to Vote*"; more information forthcoming

SATURDAY, JUNE 8

Annual Meeting
Farina's, 2485 Coolidge Hwy, Berkley, MI 48072; Speaker: Chief Justice Bridget Mary McCormack

**Thank you
to our
sponsors**



MEA **Doug Hill**
Board Member, Region 7
President, REA
Michigan Education Association www.mea.org

Rochester Education Association
200 East Silverbell
Lake Orion, MI 48360
Ofc: 248-874-1832 Fax: 248-377-0520
Email: dhill@mea.org

Shelton
BUICK GMC

855 South Rochester Rd.
Rochester Hills, MI 48307
248.651.5500
www.shelton.com

League of Women Voters Oakland Area | league@lwvoa.org
248-594-6602 | www.lwvoa.org

Be our friend on Facebook

