



Greetings to all LWVJA Members!

## Co-Presidents Letter



Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.

These four words summarize the mission of the League of Women Voters. Since last summer, LWVJA members have spent many hours volunteering to accomplish these goals. Activities have included:

- ◆ collecting signatures to put Proposal 2 on the ballot, and then get it passed,
- ◆ writing postcards to newly registered voters emphasizing the importance of their vote,
- ◆ organizing and hosting candidate forums for local elections
- ◆ collecting information from local candidates for VOTE411
- ◆ planning programs to inform students of the voting process
- ◆ talking with people at community events about the importance of voting
- ◆ encouraging college students to register to vote and exercise that important responsibility
- ◆ working as election workers
- ◆ observing the work of the Board of Canvassers
- ◆ observing at local governmental meetings (Observer Corps)
- ◆ developing ways to inform the community of the new voting rules that will be in place for the 2024 election

Moving forward, we will work to inform our community about new voting rules and engage eligible voters in this important decision-making process. We will be looking for opportunities to partner with existing organizations as well as create league-centered educational experiences. And we are always looking for members to join us in these efforts. We offer a heartfelt "thank you" to those who have volunteered and a warm "welcome" to those who wish to join in our efforts to achieve the LWV mission.

Sincerely,

*Shirley and Pam*

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- Upcoming Events
- September General Meeting
- FAQ – Early Voting
- Free and Fair elections
- Tea invite & registration
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### LWVJA Events Calendar

#### November 2023

- 7 (Tues) Election Day
- 10 (Fri) Tea set up, 1 p.m. – 6:00 pm
- 11 (Sat) Veteran's Day
- 11 (Sat) Fall Friendship Tea, 10:30-1:00, Commonwealth Commerce Center
- 17 (Fri) Board meeting; noon, Alpha Coney Island/Jackson Crossing

#### December 2023

- 7 (Thurs) 9th Annual Holiday Party and General Meeting, noon, Bella Notte
- 15 (Fri) Bill of Rights Day

#### January 2024

- 9 (Tues) Carrie Chapman Catt's (LWV founder) birthday
- 15 (Mon) Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 19 (Fri) Board meeting, noon via Zoom

#### February 2024

- 16 (Fri) Board Meeting, noon via Zoom
- 22 (Thurs) General Meeting, 2:00 – 3:30, Location TBD

Every Election is determined by the People Who Show Up

# September General Meeting - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

James Garner, the Department Coordinator of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Jackson College, was the guest speaker for the LWV September general meeting at the Carnegie Library. As someone who works with campus organizations, he outlined ways the League could partner with them to share voter information and register students to vote. The evening lead to an active discussion among members. Mr. Garner and the League aim is to connect with a group of students in the near future.



James's son spent the evening engrossed in his book while his dad spoke to the League.



## League of Women Voters Jackson Area Snapshot

56 members: 45 Primary, 7 Household & 4 Lifetime

## The Right to Early Voting is now enshrined in the Michigan Constitution

**FAQ:** Passage of Proposal 2 added more voting rights into the Michigan Constitution. One of those new rights is called "EARLY VOTING".  
**What does that mean for Michigan Voters?**

Michigan Proposal 2 was passed on November 8, 2022 with the overwhelming support of 60% of Michigan voters. The Michigan Constitution has now been amended to allow for improvements and safeguards to a number of voter rights including Early Voting which **is now constitutionally required to be in place for the 2024 Presidential Election.**



Next year, Early Voting will be held in several places throughout the County, *for the first time*. Decisions are still being made by the County, City, and Townships about exactly where early voting will actually take place. These Voting Centers will each allow for every citizen to vote as if they were actually in their own precinct, and every vote will be counted in the correct precinct. Each Voting Center will be staffed by trained and experienced election workers. Once the final decisions have been made, the Voting Center locations and other information will be made public by Jackson County Election officials. LWVJA will update our members as well.

Early Voting will begin the second Saturday before an Election, and conclude on the Sunday before the Election. The Early Voting Centers will be open for eight hours each day. In person voting will still take place on the second Tuesday of November as voters are used to. Absentee ballots will still be available to those who request them.

**FAQ:** will appear regularly in The LWVJA Newsletter to answer Frequently Asked Questions from Members

## MICHIGAN'S FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS



These changes in increased voting access matter because not everyone's work schedule allows them to vote in person on the second Tuesday of November. A major goal of Proposal 2 was to help all Michigan citizens vote when they are able to do so. Armed with this information, LWVJA members should encourage everyone to register and to vote.

Michigan's Secretary of State, Jocelyn Benson, is working closely with all election officials throughout the state to ensure the continuation of error free elections. The Jackson County Clerk is Cierra Sowle, and the Elections Director is Jennifer Crews. There is an inordinate amount of work that must be done to ensure election integrity. All city and township officials work closely with Ms. Crews throughout the year to help make our elections 'look easy'. They are all working together to make early voting seamless for voters, poll workers, the Board of Canvassers, and to report the results to the Secretary of State. These public officials are committed to continuing to maintain our system of free and fair elections.

Proposal 2 Enshrines Additional Rights into the Michigan Constitution

We will continue to provide information to you about the benefits of this Constitutional Amendment for Michigan voters. Besides Early Voting, other improvements and safeguards of our voting rights now in our Constitution cover:

- Voter Identification
- Absentee Voting Improvements
- Military & Overseas Ballots
- Election Integrity
- Charitable Contributions
- Permanent Voter List





# *3 Reasons for you to attend the 5th Annual Friendship Tea November 11, 2023*

*Unique Silent Auction Items*



*Great Company*



*Jewelry, scarves,  
and  
much more*



# LWVJA Annual Friendship Tea Invitation

Saturday, Nov 11 2023



LEAGUE OF  
WOMEN VOTERS  
JACKSON AREA

You are invited to the

## *Fifth Annual Friendship Tea*

Nov 11, 2023 10:30 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.

Commonwealth Commerce Center

On the SE corner of

E Washington & Martin Luther King Jr Streets

Park and enter through the west facing entrance  
Tea room located on the second floor

All are welcome but guests should have the ability to remain  
seated for the duration of the Tea

Hostess opportunities available

Contact Deborah Nagy at  
[danagy@gmail.com](mailto:danagy@gmail.com)

Seating is limited  
Reservations by  
November 4, 2023

### Two ways to reserve your seat

- 1) Fill out the attached Reservation sheet and mail it along  
with a check to:

League of Women Voters Jackson Area  
P.O. Box 1886  
Jackson, MI 49204

- 2) Or fill out reservation form on line and pay on line  
through the website: [lwvjackson.org/calendar/falltea](http://lwvjackson.org/calendar/falltea)



## *Fifth Annual Friendship Tea*

*Silent Auction*

10:30 a.m. till 12:30 p.m.

*Estate Jewelry*

10:30 a.m. till 1:15 p.m.

*Donation via cash/check for Jewelry  
and Silent Auction items*

*Tea 11:00 a.m. till 1:00 p.m.*

### *Program*

*Martha Petry, MC*

*Welcome*

*Tea & Light Luncheon*

*Presentation*

*Meet Our Founders*

*Hostess Sharing*

*Door prize distribution*

*Silent Auction Results*

*50/50 Raffle Results*

*Closing Remarks*

LWVJA Annual Friendship Tea Registration  
Saturday, Nov 11 2023

Please use this form to mail in or go to:  
lwvjackson.org/calendar/falltea to reserve & pay on line



Reservations by November 4th

**Table Patron** \$325.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_

includes the hostess seat & seating for 5 guests, Table Sponsor & Benefactor status and special recognition at the Tea

Hostess: \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #1 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #3 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #4 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #5 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

**For Myself** \$ 35.00 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Guests** \$35.00 each

Guest #1 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #2 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #3 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guest #4 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Guests #5 \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ number of guests x \$35.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be seated with \_\_\_\_\_ or I have no preference in seating \_\_\_\_\_

**Table sponsor** \$40.00 Table sponsor includes your name on a table and in the program \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Tea Benefactor** \$100.00 Tea Benefactor name in the program and special recognition during the Tea. \$\_\_\_\_\_

If you wish provide a logo and email it to lindafurgason@gmail.com by Nov 5th

**Please find my check enclosed for** **Total \$**\_\_\_\_\_

Committees are an important and active part of the League.

## Program Planning Committee



Although the title of this committee would seem to indicate that the responsibility is to plan activities and events, it is a bit more complex than that. Understanding what “program” means in league-terms is important to appreciating the dedication and depth of research and study involved in accomplishing the LWV mission of “Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy”.

League program at every level-local, state and national-consists of those public policy issues members choose for concentrated study and action. They reflect basic concerns about ensuring a working democracy that is responsive to the needs of all.

All LWV action is based on program or positions arrived at by consensus or concurrence among the membership after in depth research and study.

Before the League can act, members must agree in broad terms on various aspects of the issue. To formulate a position or statement of action, a consensus, or agreement, is reached through group discussion. Members come to an overall “sense of the group” as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions. It is from this agreement that the League formulates a position statement for action.

The state league holds meetings (conventions) in odd numbered years; the national conventions are held in even numbered years. At these meetings, members discuss ideas for program topics or studies as well as outcome of any completed study. When research and consensus discussion for a completed study is over, members vote on whether to adopt the position, reject it or require more information in certain areas before adoption. Once a position is adopted, local and state leagues as well as national may take action and advocate related to the position.

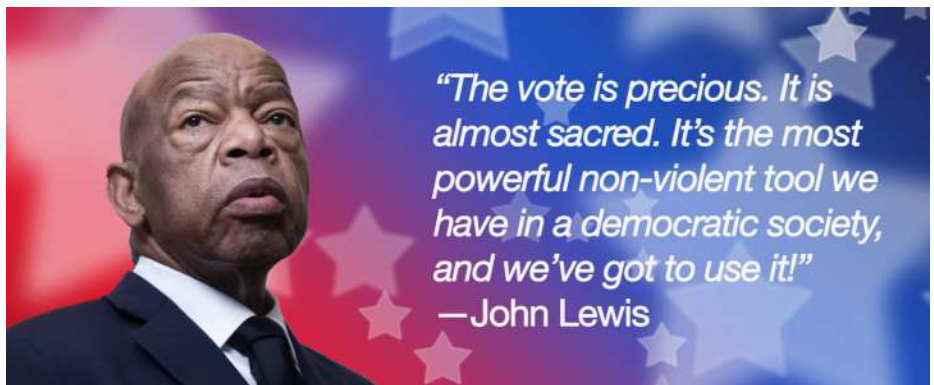
The local program planning committee is responsible for reviewing state and national positions prior to each convention to determine if, from the perspective of local members, changes are needed for current positions. The committee meets early in the year (Jan-Feb) and a form is provided to guide this review. The findings of the group are presented to members of the local league for their approval. Participating in this review is a great way to learn more about the way the league determines the issues on which action is taken. The outcome of this local discussion is reported to appropriate state or national leaders. Final decisions on state and national program are made by a vote of the delegates to the respective Convention.

This is truly a grassroots process for choosing League Program. All League action, advocacy, and education are based on support for League positions and League principles. League action in support of League positions may be taken only in those areas where there is member understanding and agreement.

If you are interested in more information about this or any LWVJA committee, please contact a board member.

### Election Calendar 2023

November 7: General Election





**This is a friendly reminder that it is time to renew your membership with the League of Women Voters! You can renew by mail with the attached renewal form or online with the following link <https://lwvjackson.org/membership/join/>.**

**Please feel free to contact me with any questions at [abbey3366@gmail.com](mailto:abbey3366@gmail.com). Thank you, Abbey Frew**

## MEMBERSHIP FORM 2023-2024

**Please complete this form and mail to: LWVJA P.O. Box 1886 Jackson, MI 49204**

**Or pay online at through PayPal on our website: [Lwvjackson.org/membership/join/](https://lwvjackson.org/membership/join/)**

**Membership is open to everyone age 16 and older. Membership in a local League includes membership in the state and national leagues.**

**Dues Assistance Option**—LWVJA offers supplemental dues assistance to individuals on a case-by-case basis. See full policy on our website under Join/Renew. Please contact a LWVJA Board Member to discuss.

\_\_\_\_\_ **New Membership**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal**

There are three types of local League membership:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\$75.00 Individual Membership** - annual membership for one person supports the League efforts:

\$32 – National    \$23.90 – State of Michigan    \$19.10 - Local Jackson Area

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\$112.50 Household Membership** - annual membership for two people who share the same address.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **\$5.00 Student Membership** - annual membership for one person currently enrolled as a full time student.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional donation:** Please consider adding a contribution to your dues to help support local programs. Membership donations provide a major source of money for our local League, plus grants and fundraising. Your donations are greatly appreciated and go to support voter guides, candidate forums, local advocacy, citizen education activities and communications with membership.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL** Membership dues and contributions are not deductible as a personal or business expense for tax purposes. We are a 501(c)(4) organization.

Make check payable to: LWVJA and mail to: P.O. Box 1886 , Jackson, MI 49204

**Or pay online through PayPal on our website: [Lwvjackson.org/membership/join/](https://lwvjackson.org/membership/join/)**

- Service fees applied:\$2.50 for Individual; \$4 for Household

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Second Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name (second household member:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Second Phone** \_\_\_\_\_



**Thank you for Helping Make Democracy Work!**



**Board of Directors**



Shirley Zeller



Pam Schultz

**Co-Presidents**

Ann Green  
Vice President



Laurie Campbell  
Secretary

Susan Murphy  
Treasurer



Debbie Killewald  
Voter Services

Abbey Frew  
Membership



Ken Hollingshead  
Tech Support

Deborah Nagy  
Historian & Facebook



Deborah Herbert

Sharon Pedersen



Bert Sexton

**View From Our Past**

**Honoring Jackson Area LWV Pioneers**



Article reprinted from the Jackson Citizen Patriot archives  
May 12, 1932

**Women Voters Name Officers For This Year**

**Mrs. DuBois Loux Again Chosen President; Address Given by State Senator Jay F. Binning.**

Mrs. DuBois Loux was again honored by the Jackson League of Women Voters by being named president of the organization at the annual meeting at the home of Mrs. W. H. Handley, 1825 Grovedale avenue, Wednesday afternoon. An added feature of the meeting was an address by State Senator Jay F. Binning.

Assisting officers named are: First vice president, Miss Charlotte Howard; second vice president, Mrs. C. M. Russell; third vice, Mrs. Max Norton; corresponding secretary, Mrs. George W. Goldner; recording secretary, Mrs. May King; treasurer, Mrs. O. M. Love.

Mrs. A. N. Mettee presided during the election of the officers, and Mrs. Loux took charge of the rest of the meeting.

Mrs. Loux spoke of the importance of the work of the organization in government committees during the presidential campaign. Mrs. F. J. Bennett is chairman of this committee and active work will be carried on during the coming months. Miss Howard was named chairman of the program committee for the coming year. She will be assisted by Mrs. A. M. Mettee, Mrs. Gilbert Loomis, Mrs. Marshall Smith and Mrs. Katharine Hank.

Senator Binning spoke on the work of the recent special session of the legislature. He reviewed the principal work of the body, and answered many questions in regard to the session.

This was the last business meeting of the league until fall, but the various committees will be active during the summer months.

Tea was served at the close of the afternoon and the hostess was assisted by Mrs. H. F. Parks, Mrs. Thomas Deo and Mrs. William McBeth.



**LWVJA Contacts**

**Mailing address:** LWVJA P O Box 1886 Jackson, MI 49204

**website address:** LWVJackson.org

**Facebook address:** League of Women Voters Jackson Area

Email the newsletter committee at:  
leaguwvjackson@gmail.com



Mary Lee Clark



Pam Schultz



Linda Furgason

