



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS of the Ann Arbor Area

Box 3832, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3832, (734) 665-5808

Visit us at www.lwvann Arbor.org

LWV is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influencing public policy through education and advocacy

★President's Corner★

Autumn is here and it is debate time. We will hold our debate on CTN Channel 17th, on October 22, starting at 7:00 pm for Wards 1 and 4. This is for the General Election in November.

We would like to get our members involved in the League. I know that many of you are busy with families, careers, and other obligations. Please fill out the member interest form that I mailed out in the August mailing.

The League is starting our Jail Study. If you are interested in being on the committee, please e-mail the League. Our November 12th meeting will include four panelists that serve the county on jail-related positions. The panelists are Washtenaw County Commissioner Barbara Levin Bergman, Sheriff Jerry Clayton, Prosecuting Attorney Brian Mackie, and Christine Negandank, of the Community Support and Treatment Center. The program will be held from 7:00-8:30 pm at the downtown Ann Arbor District Library. There is parking across the street from the library. Unfortunately, the library parking lot closed on September 30 for construction. Please bring a friend and come and hear about the county jail.

The League is looking for someone to do publicity, news releases, etc. This task can be done on the computer. If you are interested, please email the League.

Shirley Axon and the Natural Resources Committee have started the Natural Resources Meetings up again. The next one is noon on Thursday, November 5th. Please read her column about this exciting and informative meeting. Bring a lunch and join us for tea and coffee. The meeting is at Zion Lutheran

Church, on the 2nd floor. There is an elevator, and I will be there to greet you at the back door.

We do the best we can with the calendar. Please check our website for accuracy
www.lwvann Arbor.org

The YEO (Your Elected Officials) pamphlet is available. Please email the League for a copy or download it from the League's website.

If you have not received a letter from me with a YEO, schedule (calendar), and woman suffrage exhibit request, please notify the League as soon as possible.

Jeanine Delay and I are organizing an exhibit at the Washtenaw Historical Society for January and February 2011. If you have any memorabilia or know of anyone who has, please contact me, or Jeanine, through the League's website.

Now is the time that League dues are due. Your dues support national, state, and local fees. Please consider giving a donation to our local League's Operating Account (not tax deductible) or to the LWV Education Fund (tax deductible). The Ed Fund supports items such as the jail study, information that we hand out at meetings, etc. When you renew your membership, you support our League, which is well respected in this community. Many people request our YEOs and Ed Fund contributions help defray the cost to the local league. During the election season when there are ballot proposals at the state level, people depend on us to come to their groups and explain the positions. Please support the Ann Arbor Area League by renewing your dues. If you know anyone who would like to

join the League, please bring her (or him) to our luncheon or general meetings.

In December, Shirley Axon will open up her house to the League for our Potluck Get-together. This is a social event that gives us an opportunity to get to know each other better. Please see the Calendar for details.

On behalf of the League, I would like to thank Trina Borenstein for publishing our newsletter for this month.

★ **Zoe Behnke, President, LWV-AAA**
bliz468@aol.com or 734-663-1664

BOARD MEETINGS

**NOVEMBER 3, 2009, 7:15-9:00 PM AT
TURNER RESOURCE CENTER ON PLYMOUTH RD.
JANUARY 8, 2010, 7:15-9:00 PM
FEBRUARY 2, 2010, 7:15-9:00 PM
MARCH 2, 2010, 7:15-9:00 PM
APRIL 6, 2010, 7:15-9:00 PM
JUNE 8, 2010, 7:15-9:00 PM**

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE TO CONFIRM LOCATION.
BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO OUR MEMBERS.**

League of Women Voters - Ann Arbor Area Officers & Directors 2009-2010

Officers

President	Zoe Behnke
Vice-President-Membership	Sue Smith
Secretary	Trina Borenstein
Treasurer	Judith Mich
Education Fund Treasurer	Betty Bishop

Directors

Social Policy-Education	
Social Policy-Health Care	
Social Policy-Prison Study	
Government	Nancy Schewe
Natural Resources	Shirley Axon
Voter Service	
Program Coordination	Fran Lyman
Newsletter	Trina Borenstein
Publicity	

BUDGET MATTERS Judy Mich, Treasurer, 668-6491 judithgmich@hotmail.com

It's the fall Bulletin and it's time to talk dues. Our LWV-AAA membership year is the calendar year, January 1 to December 31. We must report our paid membership to the LWV-US this December; so I've inserted a flyer now asking "Please Renew Your League Membership." Fill out the form completely and either mail it or bring it with you to the next meeting. We are particularly eager to get any and all email addresses for collaboration with the LWV-US as well as our own local move toward e-communication and online bulletins. Your email address is never published, shared or sold. Promise. For our own historical records — as each of us march toward free lifetime membership after 50

years — please provide your year of joining, even a close guess will do.

Member dues increased last year to \$55 for an individual and \$80 for a household, two or more members at the same address. For each member the Ann Arbor League pays over \$47 in per member payments (PMP) to the LWV-MI and LWV-US. Add to that fixed costs for meeting rooms at the City Club, insurance, bulk mail permit, postage, P. O. Box, the Newsletter, and the monthly telephone bill, and the cost per member exceeds the dues each of us pays. Our League is, therefore, sustained by contributions, our Ed Fund account, and our savings.

If you can, be generous. Local contributions go to our local LWV-AAA. These contributions can be used for any

League work and since that may include lobbying for a League-supported issue (we do take sides on issues, but never candidates) they are not tax-deductible. A SEPARATE check to LWV-EF, however, goes separately to our League's Educational Fund account in Washington, DC, and can be used ONLY for education/voter service activities. Therefore, donations to the Education Fund ARE tax deductible. You make the choice: do one, or do both!

Scholarship memberships remain available for active members who cannot afford the total amount or prefer to pay in installments. Active student members pay \$20. Contact me, or a board member, for information about either.

Please act now. Fill out the form and find your checkbook. If you haven't paid since July 1, 2009, your dues are due. Remember, we need your email address and the year you joined the League (an

estimate will suffice.) No matter what, we can't do without you. Invite others to join the League -- we can do more with more.

Education Fund

The EF is a special account that the LWV-AAA maintains with the National LWV office. Contributions to this account are tax-deductible; and the money is used for education efforts including voter forums, election guides, and public meetings on such topics as natural resources, health care, and social policy. Locally we tend to have about \$2500 in our EF account. Contributions to this account are made during the year by League members, and money is withdrawn for approved events. In the past several years, the amounts contributed and the amounts withdrawn have been roughly equal. If you wish to donate to the EF you may do so on the dues renewal form that you will be receiving very shortly. If you have any questions about the EF, please contact Betty Bishop, Assistant Treasurer, at bbishop@umich.edu.

🌿 Natural Resources News 🌿 by Shirley Axon, NR Chair

NEXT NOON MEETING -- Come hear Shirley Axon and Jean Kluge report on the Great Lakes. These long-term Great Lakes activists recently attended the Annual Meeting of the Lake Michigan LWV and heard three excellent speakers talk on current Great Lakes problems and hopes. -- Thursday, Nov. 5, 12:00 noon at Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Bring your own lunch, refreshments provided.

GREENBELT REPORT -- Oct. 22, 2008, Jennifer Santi-Hall, VP of the Greenbelt Advisory Commission, gave us an update on the 30 year, 0.5 mil Greenbelt Millage. To date, we have spent \$10m to purchase the development rights on 1,321 acres in the Greenbelt, of which \$4m is state and federal, and \$6m is currently available to purchase more.

The city works closely with the Conservation Fund, potential landowners, and setting up 'scoring' criteria, such as soils and natural features, size, and road access (visibility). Priorities include:

1,000-acre blocks of farmland; partnerships; open space; connections to the Huron River.

All of the proposed Greenbelt is in the townships, of which Webster Twp. (600 acres) and Ann Arbor Twp. have the greatest number.

The Commission is now reviewing its Strategic Plan (SP). The recent downturn has resulted in a number of changes because of no development pressure in the townships.

Development speculators are interested, and property values are going down. So, the big question is, "What is the right amount to pay?" The Commission has recently received 15 bids, ranging from \$7,000 to \$75,000 per acre.

The SP has added as a priority local food farms (most of Farmers Mkt. food comes from outside the Greenbelt). The Commission now has partnership opportunities with Preserve Washtenaw and other groups

NOVEMBER 12 GENERAL MEETING

Our November meeting will be 4 panelists that serve on the jail committee for Washtenaw County. The panelists are: Washtenaw County Commissioner Barbara Levin Bergman, Sheriff Jerry Clayton, Prosecuting Attorney Brian Mackie, and Christine Negandank, Community Support and Treatment Center.

The program will be held from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the downtown Ann Arbor District Library. There is parking across the street from the library. Unfortunately, the library parking lot closed on September 30. Please bring a friend and come and hear about the county jail.

WINNING THE WOMEN'S VOTE IN WASHTENAW

The League of Women Voter-Ann Arbor Area is planning an exhibit entitled, "Winning the Women's Vote in Washtenaw," highlighting the movement to get the vote for women in the county. This new and exciting exhibit will be located at the Washtenaw Historical Society in Ann Arbor during the months of January and February 2010.

We want to make this exhibit as inclusive and broad-based as possible. To do this we are asking to unearth and dig up family mementos as well as memories. Please take the time to check your attics, basements, shoeboxes, photo albums, scrapbooks and other potential "Antique Roadshow" collectibles that address the issue of women's suffrage or the votes-for-women campaign. We are especially interested in getting suffrage mementos and artifacts from the years 1900-1920. In addition, we are interested in acquiring for loan dresses and accessories, such as hats

particularly from the years 1910-1913.

What mementos are we most interested in discovering? We would like to obtain material from both sides, which means if you have any items that are anti-suffrage as well as pro-suffrage, we will be delighted to put them to use if we can. Here are some specifics:

- Letters, photos, films, diary entries, newspaper articles on the suffragists' /anti-suffragists' activities and ideas.
- Pamphlets, tracts, books outlining the arguments for and against suffrage.
- Programs, Buttons, signs, sashes, parade banners from suffrage and anti-suffrage rallies, events.
- Products for sale and which were affiliated with the suffrage movement and enterprises associated with both the suffrage and anti-suffrage groups and organizations.

If you find any item remotely related to women's suffrage, and especially associated with Michigan and Washtenaw County, please contact:

www.lwvannarbor.org

So check out those stashes and your stuff now stored away. Talk to any family member or friend who lived in the area during the years 1900-1920, and ask them about the votes-for-women campaign and their possible recollections about it.

Thank you for contributing to this amazing, unique and worthwhile project. Please join us in telling this important story about how women got the vote in Washtenaw!

Jeanine DeLay and Zoe Behnke, Co-Curators
Winning the Women's Vote in Washtenaw
Washtenaw Historical Museum

Voting & Your Elected Officials

Please remember to vote on November 3 in the General Election. CTN in Ann Arbor will be repeatedly showing the debates up until November 2 on Channel 17. The League would like to thank our candidates, CTN, and our volunteers.

Your Elected Officials pamphlets (YEOs) have been distributed to all the libraries in the county, and to the Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti City Clerks. It will be showing up on our website in the near future at www.lwvannarbor.org.

Calendar
October 2009 - January 2010

October 22: **Wards 1 and 4 Debate**
Community Television Network
2805 S. Industrial Hwy., Suite 200

November 3: **VOTE**

November 3: **LWV-AAA Board Meeting**
Members invited

November 5: Thursday, 12:00-1:00 pm
Natural Resources Meeting
Speaker: Shirley Axon and Jean Kluge
Topic: Our Great Lakes
(See Shirley's Article)
Zion Lutheran Church (2nd
floor) Please bring a bag lunch, drinks will
be provided

November 12, 2009-Thursday - Panel
discussion on the Washtenaw County Jail
Ann Arbor Public Library (downtown)
7:00 pm-8:30 pm

December 8: Tuesday, 6:30 pm
December Potluck
Please RSVP by December 1st
Shirley: 665-9349
2016 Seneca St., Ann Arbor

January 8: **LWV-AAA Board Meeting**
Members welcome

January 16: Saturday, 12:00-2:00 pm
National Program Planning
Paesano's
3411 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor
Reservations by Jan. 10
Fran Lyman: 761-4113

March 9: Tuesday, 7:00-9:30 pm
Prison Study
Ann Arbor City Club
1850 Washtenaw

April 13: Tuesday, 7:00-9:30 pm
Consensus on the Prison Study
Ann Arbor City Club
1850 Washtenaw

May 11: Tuesday, 7:00-9:30pm
Annual Meeting
Ann Arbor City Club
1850 Washtenaw

*Please check the further Newsletters for
corrections and additional meetings
schedule.*

*Please remember to ask people if they have woman suffrage material from Washtenaw County. The material can be for or against suffrage. The exhibit will be January/February 2011 at the Washtenaw Historical Museum on Main Street in Ann Arbor. If your or your friend have suffrage material, please have them e-mail us a description of the item: lwwannarbor.org
Thank you.
Zoe Behnke and Jeanine Delay*

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