



Oakland Voter

League of Women Voters Oakland Area
725 S. Adams Road, Suite 292, Birmingham, MI 48009
Phone: 248/594-6602 Fax: 248/594-6603 website: www.lwvoa.org
President: Judy Bateman e-mail: Pres@lwvoa.org

2010-2011 Issue 1

September 2010



LWVOA ANNUAL FALL LUNCHEON

Presents

DAM THOSE FISH

Are Asian Carp a Threat to the Great Lakes?

Speakers:

Jeanette Neagu

LWV Lake Michigan Inter-League Organization
- on water issues impacting Great Lakes

Nick Schroeck

Great Lakes Law Environmental Center and
Adjunct Professor, WSU Environmental Law Clinic
- regarding related legal issues

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

12 noon Lunch

1 pm Speakers

First Baptist Church of Birmingham

300 Willits, Birmingham, MI 48009

(North of Maple, West of Old Woodward)

Enter the Church via the BACK Door,

Open to the public.

Please come and bring your friends and support our programs and fundraising activities such as these.

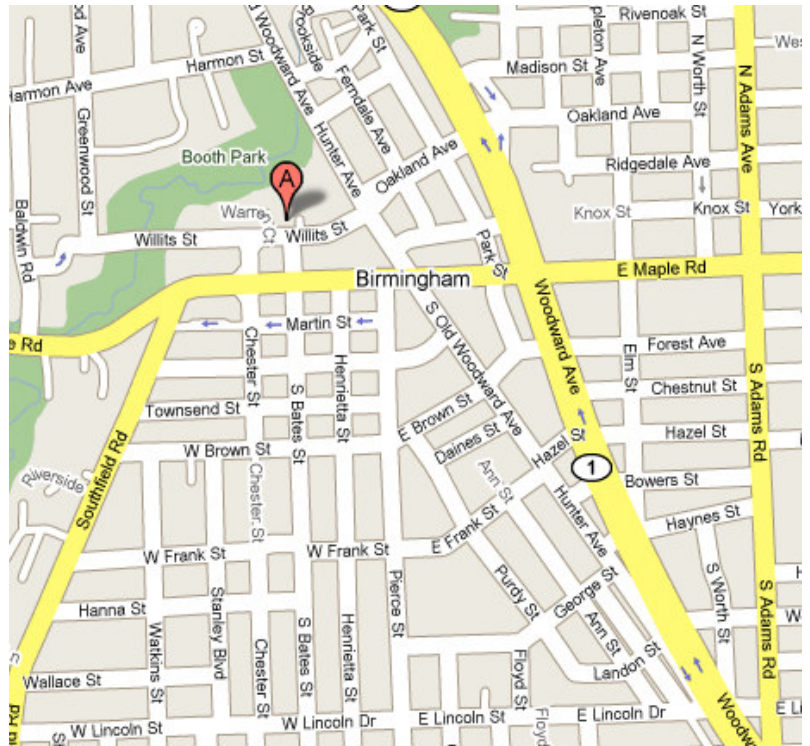
\$20 Lunch & Speakers

- delicious lunch, beverages & dessert
provided by Dorothy Conrad & Marge Polidori

\$5 for Speakers only

RESERVATION NECESSARY BY SEPT. 16th

See Reservation Form on Page 7.



Parking (1st 2 hours free) at adjacent Garage.

Enter lot at Bates and Willits

Handicapped Parking in the lot is directly behind church.

See Candidate and Ballot Proposal Forum schedule on Pages 3-4.
We are working on additional forums (including possible statewide races)
and will post them on www.LWVOA.org as arranged.
Watch for Emails from Judy Bateman about added events.

*The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization,
encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding
of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.*

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2010-2011

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THE OAKLAND VOTER is the official publication of the League of Women Voters. It is published seven times a year by the LWVOA. Articles and Letters to the Editor, with writer's name, address and phone number may be sent to the LWVOA office.

- Editor: Eva Packard

LWVOA ON FACEBOOK!

If you are not already a member of Facebook, you can sign up at www.FACEBOOK.com and make "League of Women Voters Oakland Area" one of your Facebook friends.

Invite your friends to learn about League activities and upcoming programs.

LWV: Where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Our experience at the **Dream Cruise** became a challenging one in many ways. We had to contend with terrible weather and we shared our small space with Ron of Vineyards Café and Catering, who donates ice every year, and was also selling his new product, flax bars. But most challenging was being within a few feet of a group preaching the hell and damnation school of religion for over 2 hours. This was a time when our principles met reality. It was a time to reflect on and reinforce what democracy is really all about, that even if you don't agree, everyone has the right to a voice.

Speaking of a voice, it was inspiring to have 7 League members and even 2 non-members hawking pizza, ("Get your pizza \$1 a slice"), from the tiny, gentle voice of Christine Jurgenson to the booming voice of Karen Johnston. Thanks to them and to Mary Ann Barkach, Tera and Joe Moon, Julia Ruffin, Larry Brown, and especially Dorothy Conrad and Jerry Burden. Dorothy and I stayed all day and even with all the challenges we managed to make \$700.

Coming up on **Monday, September 20** is the **Fall Luncheon** with 2 speakers and a presentation on Lake Michigan and the Asian Carp. (Information included in this Voter.) This topic is critical to me. My family has been summering on Lake Michigan since 1982. Every year the first sight of the big lake is a source of great joy. We need to be aware of every threat to our wonderful lakes so that we can act to keep this treasure that has been entrusted to us.

Several **candidate forums** are already scheduled for the General Election and a **pro/con debate** on the question of having a **Constitutional Convention (Wednesday, October 20** at the Baldwin Library in Birmingham). Remember to send in your dues if you haven't already done so - See Page 6 for form.

Now is a great time to slow down, take a breath, and turn a challenge into an inspirational experience.

President, Judy Bateman

VOTER GUIDE Information for November 2, 2010, General Election

LWV Oakland Area will prepare **online and printed Voter Guides** for the November 2nd General Election. Information should be available **by the first week in October** online at www.LWVOA.ORG with printed copies available at all public libraries and city/township halls in Oakland County and mailed to members and contributors.

Offices on the 2010 ballot will include the **partisan offices** of Governor/Lt. Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, US Representative, State Senator, State Representative, State Board of Education, 3 University Boards, County Commissioner, and Township offices for partial terms (Addison, Bloomfield, Brandon, Milford, Orion, Royal Oak, Springfield, Waterford, White Lake).

Nonpartisan offices on the ballot include **Supreme Court Justices**, Judges of Court of Appeals, Circuit Court, **Probate Court** and various **District Courts** (46, 48, 52-4 contested), **Cities** (Clarkston, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake), **Villages** (Beverly Hills, Holly, Leonard, Ortonville, Wolverine Lake), **School districts** (Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Brandon, Clarenceville, Clawson, Holly, Huron Valley, Madison, Northville, Novi, Oxford, Pontiac, Royal Oak, Southfield, Walled Lake, Waterford, West Bloomfield) and **Oakland Community College**.

Proposals are also on the ballot for **two state Constitutional Amendments** (Constitutional Convention, Felons running for office) and for the cities of Bloomfield Hills, Farmington, Ferndale, Royal Oak, Troy and Walled Lake, the townships of Milford, Oxford, Royal Oak, Waterford and White Lake, the village of Beverly Hills and the school districts of Bloomfield Hills and Novi, and the Northville District Library.

CANDIDATE FORUMS for Oakland County residents

**Forums are being taped and will be shown on local cable.
Check with your local cable organization for rerun schedules.**

We will insert rerun and online video information if we learn it in the Candidate Forum schedule table.

Check www.LWVOA.org for the most current CANDIDATE FORUM schedules.

Additional forums may still be arranged.

Thursday, September 9, 2010	7 PM	Livonia City Hall 33000 Civic Center Dr. (S. off 5 Mile Rd., East of Farmington Rd.) Livonia, MI 48154	U.S. House of Representative, District 11 Coordinator: LWV NorthWest Wayne
Tuesday, September 21, 2010	7 PM - 8 PM	Southfield Public Library 26300 Evergreen Rd. Southfield, MI 48076 Link to video of forum will be available on www.ocba.org .	Judge, District Court 46. District covers Lathrup Village, Southfield, Beverly Hills, Bingham Farms, Franklin & Southfield Township. Coordinator: Judy Bateman Co-sponsors: Oakland County Bar Association, Detroit Free Press
Wednesday, September 22, 2010	7 PM - 8 PM	Bloomfield Township Hall - Auditorium 4200 Telegraph Road Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303 Link to video of forum will be available on www.ocba.org .	Judge, District Court 48. District covers Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Bloomfield Township, Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake & West Bloomfield Township. Coordinator: Judy Bateman Co-sponsors: Oakland County Bar Association, Detroit Free Press
Thursday, September 23, 2010	7 PM	OCC Orchard Ridge Building J, Turrell Hall, Park in lot 4 or 5 27055 Orchard Lake Road Farmington Hills, MI 48334-4579	Oakland Community College Trustees. Coordinator: Judy Bateman

Tuesday, September 28, 2010	7 PM	Instructional Technology Center (ITC) Forum (on the grounds of Novi School District admin. offices) 25345 Taft Rd. Novi, MI 48375	Novi School Board. Coordinator: Judy Bateman
Tuesday, October 5, 2010	7 PM	Doyle Center 7273 Wing Lake Rd. Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301	Bloomfield Hills School Board & Ballot Proposal Forum. Coordinator: Judy Bateman
Wednesday, October 6, 2010	7 PM	Rochester Hills City Hall 1000 Rochester Hills Drive Rochester Hills, MI 48309	State Representative District 45 & State Senate District 12. Coordinator: Ann Edwards
Wednesday, October 6, 2010	8:15 PM	Rochester Hills City Hall 1000 Rochester Hills Drive Rochester Hills, MI 48309	County Commissioner Districts 11 & 12. Coordinator: Ann Edwards
Wednesday, October 13, 2010	7 PM	Village Council Chambers 18500 West 13 Mile Road Beverly Hills, MI 48025	Village of Beverly Hills: Village Council (4 seats). Coordinator: Jerry Burden
Wednesday, October 20, 2010	7 PM	Baldwin Public Library 300 W. Merrill Birmingham, MI 48009	State Ballot Proposal Forum 1. Constitutional Convention 2. Felons running for office

Women's Equality Day Luncheon

Women's organizations in Michigan celebrated the **90th anniversary of women winning the right to vote** at a luncheon on Saturday, August 21st in Livonia. **Laura Callow**, Chair of the Michigan Coalition for Equal Rights Studies and member of LWV Northwest Wayne, served as Master of Ceremonies. Laura will be inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame this October. A Proclamation by Governor Granholm in honor of Women's Equality Day was read.

In a video greeting, **U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow** discussed the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and the number of women elected to Congress over the years. She noted that while recent elections have resulted in an increased number of women in the Senate and the House, the total is still not representative of the population and encouraged more women to run for office.



(Above) Debbie Macon
in 'suffragette' white

Debbie Macon, Vice President of the Women Officials' Network and member of LWV Oakland Area, then spoke on the theme "A Woman's Place" and dynamically emphasized that women belong in the House and the Senate and other offices.

Mickey Edell, past-President of the American Association of University Women of Michigan, provided an update on pay equity legislation and the need for advocacy to achieve that goal.

She introduced a one-act play, "**The Mosaic: A Conversation with Alice Paul**", where young women are introduced to the struggle for voting rights and equal rights for women by the ghost of Alice Paul, who was instrumental in winning the right to vote and who devoted her life to that cause and to the Equal Rights Amendment which passed Congress, but has not been ratified by enough states.

Would you like to help the League (state and local) provide voter information via its online voter guides and its partnership with Publius.org **by utilizing your Word cutting and pasting skills? Help is needed from Sept. 20 to Oct. 27. Contact Eva Packard** at 248-473-5595 or packarde@juno.com if you are available any time during that period.

UPCOMING LWVOA EVENTS To Be Announced

A General Meeting on Redistricting on Saturday morning, tentatively **November 6th** at Southfield Library.

A Holiday Social & Fundraiser with a movie on Saturday, **December 4th** at Bernadette Najor's home.

A Saturday brunch in **January** to do **State Program Planning** at Vicki Lange's home.

Saturday **Annual Meeting** and Luncheon with speaker on **June 11** at Shenandoah Country Club.

MEETINGS are being planned on the following **TOPICS with dates open:**

- State Study on topic of **Alternative Forms of Voting** (Ex. Instant Runoff, Primary top two to General election)
- National Study on **Federal Role in Education**

If you are interested in being involved in either of these studies,
contact Judy Bateman at 248-399-2815 or judybateman@comcast.net.

We would like to form study committees locally as we have done for topics in the past.

sponsors



33400 Woodward
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www.newyousalon.com



What Can I Do?

The Green Power of One



PSA CONTEST PRESS RELEASE:

Oakland County High School Students Urged to Compete in Energy Conservation Contest

The League of Women Voters Oakland Area (LWVOA) is challenging Oakland County high school students to **create a Public Service Announcement (PSA) to emphasize the opportunities and responsibility of each individual to conserve energy.**

The contest is open to high school students, grades 9-12, who reside in or attend class in Oakland County. Contest categories are TV, radio, and essay. There is a cash prize for the winning entry in each category.

Entries will be judged on creativity, originality, clarity and use of theme. Winning TV and radio PSAs will be broadcast on local television and radio stations; the winning essay will be published in local newspapers.

Students are encouraged to utilize graphics, audio, visual and other media. Teachers, principals, school audio/video departments, parents and community leaders are invited to share their equipment and lend local support by promoting this program.

Information on entering the contest can be found either on the LWVOA web site at www.lwvoa.org, or at the Oakland County School web site at <http://www.oakland.k12.mi.us/tabid/878/Default.aspx>.

- Renate Soulen, PSA Chair

Committee: Shelley Goldberg, Sheryl Mitchell, Fran Fisher, Tera Moon

2010-2011 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOW DUE

The new membership year began on July 1, 2010. **Dues cover membership from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.** Thank you to those who have already paid their dues for the coming year. New members who joined in 2010 are covered through June 30, 2011. Renewal notices will be sent out soon, but you don't have to wait. Write your check now or renew online at <http://www.lwvoa.org/Join.html>. You can print out a renewal form and mail it to the office with your check or you can join online via PayPal using a credit card. Don't have access to email? Write a **check to LWVOA**, fill out the form below, and send them to us **at 725 S. Adam Rd., Suite 292, Birmingham, MI 48009.**

Individual membership is \$60. Household membership is \$30 for each additional member of the family and Student membership for students 18 years and older is \$30. **Be sure to write DUES on your check** so it can be credited to the correct account. Timely renewal saves us the additional postage and printing expense required to mail out reminder notices. Your support of the League is very much appreciated.

League of Women Voters Oakland Area Membership Form

Date _____



Primary member:

Last name _____ First name _____

Household member: (each additional person residing at same address can be a household member)

Last name _____ First name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Home phone _____ **Work Phone** _____

Cell phone (if available) _____ **FAX** _____

Email address _____

___ I am a **NEW** member - \$60.00

___ Please **renew** my membership - \$60.00

___ Membership for **additional person in Household** - \$30.00

___ **Student** membership - \$30.00

for office use only:

date rec'd _____

ck date _____

ck # _____

db date _____

ty date _____

I want to make an additional contribution to LWVOA \$ _____

I want to contribute to the LWV Education Fund (tax deductible) \$ _____

Total enclosed \$ _____

School District Name: (to assist us in mailing information) _____

Please make checks payable to LWVOA and send to:

LWVOA

725 S. Adams Rd., Suite 292

Birmingham, MI 48009

Questions? Call 248-594-6602.

Membership year is from July 1 through June 30.

Membership includes subscription to the Oakland Voter and the Michigan Voter.

Dues and contributions to LWVOA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions to LWV Education Fund ARE tax deductible.

RESERVATION FORM for SEPTEMBER 20, 2010, FALL LUNCHEON

Fill out this form and mail with check payable to LWVOA to:

Marge Polidori
30525 Timberbrook Ln.
Bingham Farms, MI 48025-4660



NAME(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone _____

No. for Lunch (@\$20) _____ for Speaker Only (@\$5) _____ \$ _____ Enclosed

Choice of Panera Bread Sandwich: (Indicate number of each if reserving for more than 1.)

Mediterranean Veggie _____ Smoked ham & Swiss _____

Sierra Turkey _____ Roast Beef _____ Tuna Salad _____

See <http://www.panerabread.com/menu/cafe/sandwiches.php> for detail on sandwiches.

'VOTE TODAY' Signs

Help raise awareness of election days.

We are selling **weather-resistant** 'Vote Today' signs to members and their friends & relatives to be displayed in front yards and at shops around town on election days. Our supply is almost gone and there is an election on November 2. Order your Sign NOW!

- **INFORM**
- **ENCOURAGE**
- **GET INVOLVED**

\$10/each To order: e-mail edwards@wowway.com
Or call the office at (248) 594-6602



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VOTE November 2nd!!

Time Dated Material Enclosed

Calendar of Events

See www.LWVOA.ORG for VOTER GUIDES and current CANDIDATE FORUM information.
Also see www.ocba.org for additional judicial candidate response information and forum videos.

See Pages 3-4 for addresses of forums. Check website for latest forum status.

- Thu. Sep. 9 7 pm Candidate Forum for **US House, District 11**. Livonia City Hall
- Mon. Sep. 20 12 noon** **Fall Luncheon** at First Baptist Church of Birmingham, 300 Willits
"Dam Those Fish": Are Asian Carp a Threat to the Great Lakes?
\$20 for Lunch+Speakers, \$5 Speakers only. Reserve by 9/16. See Pages 1 & 7.
- Tue. Sep. 21 7 pm Candidate Forum for **District Court 46 Judge**, Southfield Library
- Wed. Sep. 22 7 pm Candidate Forum for **District Court 48 Judge**, Bloomfield Township Hall
- Thu. Sep. 23 7 pm Candidate Forum for **Oakland Community College Trustees**, OCC-Orchard Ridge
- Tue. Sep. 28 7 pm Candidate Forum for **Novi School Board**, Instructional Technology Center, Novi
- Thu. Sep. 30 7 pm LWVOA Board meeting at 725 S. Adams Rd, Birmingham 48009
- Tue. Oct. 5 7 pm Candidate and Proposal Forum for **Bloomfield Hills Schools**, Doyle Center
- Wed. Oct. 6 7 pm Candidate Forum for **State Senate 12 + State Representative 45**
and **County Commissioners 11 & 12**, Rochester Hills City Hall
- Wed. Oct. 13 8:15 pm
7 pm Candidate Forum for **Beverly Hills Village Council**, Village Hall
- Wed, Oct. 20 7 pm** **State Ballot Proposal Forum** – ConCon, Felons running for office
at Baldwin Public Library, 300 W. Merrill, Birmingham 48009
- Tue. Nov. 2 7am-8pm** **General Election** for federal, state, county, local, school and judicial offices

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A FUTURE OF HOPE**