

League Membership 101

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

History of the League

The League of Women Voters was founded in 1920 by Carrie Chapman Catt and other leaders of the effort to obtain women's right to vote. The League's first goal was to teach women to exercise their new right to vote but the scope soon included all citizens. Political action based on careful study also became an integral part of the League's agenda.

You are always welcome to League Meetings. Come check us out. Look on our FACEBOOK page for the next date.

A multilevel organization. Members join a local League and are automatically members of the state and national League.

- Dues paid to a local League include a Per Member Payment (PMP) owed to both the state and national Leagues.
- Dues and donations for general League activities are not tax deductible but tax deductible donations can be given to the LWVUS Education Fund for local use.
- Member dues help the strong lobbying efforts at the state and national levels.

The League is nonpartisan — The organization does not support or oppose political candidates.

- The President and the Chairpersons of Voter Service and VOTE411 do not participate in any activity that would indicate support for a candidate.
- All other members and board members are encouraged to be politically active.

The League supports issues after member study and agreement.

- Program issues** are selected by for study and member agreement.
- Consensus** is general membership agreement on a position after study.
- Concurrence** is agreement with position statements developed by another League.
- Advocacy** is member activity that encourages the support or opposition of legislation. Action can take place at all three levels of the League organization.

Find Us on FACEBOOK

www.facebook.com/leagueofwomenvotersjacksonmi

The League is a grassroots organization. Members have a voice in decisions at every level. They elect the board and officers, decide what issues to study, approve a budget and bylaws and give general directions to the plans for future years. Local Leagues give suggestions for the state or national program agenda.

The League mobilizes people to vote and to have a say in the complex decisions that affect us all. There is increased interest from the public to become involved in the political process. We hope more men and women will join the League to help keep our nation, our state and our communities strong, safe, just and vibrant.

League members continue to advocate for implementation of stronger voting rights laws, reforms in campaign finance, and changes in the selection of judges.

Redistricting is a League priority. We will continue to work for a redistricting process that results in more competitive districts that reflect the diverse values of the constituents.

- Candidate forums** are League sponsored sessions designed to help citizens better understand policy issues. All candidates for offices are invited to participate.

- Voter Guides** invite all candidates for an elected office to respond to specific questions about current policy issues.

- VOTE411.org** online data base containing voter guides and other personalized information to help citizens be informed.

- Voter education** programs in the schools and voter registration drives.

- Programs** with speakers to educate on a League position such as Redistricting.

FOR CURRENT NEWS, VISIT US ON FACEBOOK

Lansing League – Jackson Unit

Formed in 2015, the Jackson group operates as a Unit of the Lansing League. Jackson members may participate in any of the activities in Lansing as well as Jackson.

Jackson Unit in Action

- Provides voter services and citizen education to Jackson residents and presents nonpartisan information about elections, the voting process, and issues such as Redistricting.
- Offers Voter Education activities to educate voters on local issues.
- Registers citizens to vote including local high school and college students.
- Co-sponsor of JXN Community Forums to inform and educate the citizens on important issues affecting life in Jackson.
- 2017 Consensus study on Government Finance and Budgets – state and local.
- Candidate Forums to educate electorate.
- LWV Book Group focusing on non-fiction concerning the public sector.
- Information online at VOTE411.org on local candidates; voting information.
- Printed Voter Guide for state offices.

Recent Lansing Area League Activities

- Public Advocacy for Voters Project supporting local clerks; providing observers at polls on Election Day to provide state and national account of America's voting process.
- America Votes—discussion of the voting process
- Annual meeting speaker on state education policy issues.

1/2017

JOIN US

- Yes, I want to learn more
 Yes, I want to become a member

Name: _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Membership Dues Enclosed (check one):

- \$65 Individual Membership (annual)
 \$97.50 Household Membership for 2 (annual)
 \$32.50 Student Membership (annual)

Complete above form, make check payable to League of Women Voters of the Lansing Area and mail to:

League of Women Voters/Jackson Unit
PO box 971, East Lansing, MI 48826.

We are a 501(c3) organization. Dues and donations for general league activities are not tax deductible but tax deductible donations can be given to the LWVUS Education Fund for local use; mail to above address.

Jackson Contact:

Mary Lee Clark, Chair:
LeagueWVJackson@gmail.com

For More Information...

LWV-US: www.lwv.org
LWV-MI: www.lwvmi.org
LWV-LA: www.lansing.mi.lwvnet.org

League of Women Voters

of the
Lansing Area

Jackson Unit



Membership Info

*League membership is open
to all eligible voters
both men and women*