



The Leelanau VOTER

November 2013

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LEELANAU CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 4

HOLIDAY SALAD LUNCHEON

12:00 noon

LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

Bring Prospective Members

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

10:30 am Energy

11:00 am Challenges of Leelanau

2:00 pm Early Childhood



Wednesday, January 8

BOARD MEETING

10:30 a.m.

MEMBER MEETING

Local Program Planning and Discussion of
new LWVMI Education Position

12:00 noon

LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER



Thursday, January 23

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

sponsored by the League and
conducted by the Center for Michigan

6:30 pm

LEELANAU COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

MISSION STATEMENT

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

*Join us for a Holiday Salad Luncheon
Wednesday, December 4th
at noon*

*in the Community Room of the Government Center.
Bring a Salad to share and prospective members.
Tableware will be provided.*

*We have invited County officials to join us.
Following our luncheon there will be a tour of the
Courts and a short presentation by Laurie
LaCross from the Prosecutor's Office.*

What's Happening!

Ushering at the State Theater

Members of the Leelanau League are “ushering” at the State Theater every third Monday afternoon from 2:45 pm to 5:30 pm. Five to six people are needed for this shift. Volunteers will get free popcorn and a drink plus a voucher to see any other movie. In addition, a thank you to the Leelanau League will be put on the screen before the film. At the December meeting, we will pass around another sign-up sheet to volunteer. December 16, January 20 and February 17 are taken but the other months have openings. Bring your calendars!

Big Picture Society

Thank you to Sharon Golm and BJ Christensen for hosting showings of “Stealing America, Vote By Vote” in their homes. Beginning on January 13, 2014 the League will be showing a documentary film at the Old Art Building from 3-5 pm. We can advertise the film only to our members but we may bring guests. The cost to rent the space and to hire a technician for each film will be about \$80.00. Donations will be accepted. We are also starting a fund specifically for the **Big Picture Society**. To make a donation, contact Vina or Jo.

**Leelanau League hosts
Community Conversation on
January 23, 2014**

In cooperation with the Center for Michigan, we are hosting a conversation with Leelanau County residents on Thursday evening, January 23rd in the Community Room of the Government Center at 6:30 pm.

The Center aims to engage thousands of people all over Michigan in these discussions with the goal of identifying priorities for the state in 2014 and beyond. Discussion topics include:

- How you feel about Michigan today
- Education
- Economy & Prosperity
- Quality of Life
- Public Money Priorities

Mary Tonneberger is coordinating the effort for our League. We are sending invitations to many different organizations in hopes of reaching out to a wide range of citizens to obtain a balance of gender, age and geographic location within our county. The optimum number for a group is 40 people. A facilitator from the Center for Michigan leads the discussion.

If you are interested in taking part, please let Mary or Vina know. We will put the names of League members in a hat and draw 7-10 names, depending on the response from other groups.

This is a wonderful opportunity to have our state elected officials hear feedback from Leelanau County.

**With Our Newest
Members**

WE HAVE 97!!

**Leelanau Applies for 2014 Youth
Voter Registration Project Grant**

The Leelanau League is applying for a grant from the LWV Ed Fund to undertake voter registration activities in local high schools. BJ and Vina are writing and submitting the grant which is due December 2nd. Leagues will be notified by December 18th, 2013 if they receive an award.

“LWV has long been concerned about the rate at which young people participate in voting and more broadly in our democracy. ... more than half of all 18-year-old citizens in the United States have not been registered to vote. Overall, Americans under the age of 30 remain severely underrepresented in the electorate, and the disparities in youth voting grow even wider when looking at minority and low income youth, as well as those with no college experience.”

The grants are up to \$1000 and will pay for handouts, ads and yard signs. We will be working with Michelle Crocker, Leelanau County Clerk, as we visit the six schools in Leelanau County this spring.

STAY TUNED.

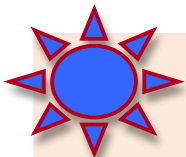


**November 13th
League Program**

**Leelanau County students
who retraced the steps of the
1960s Freedom Riders**

**from left to right
Dean Robb, sponsor
Jackie Zarzycki, Glen Lake
Olivia Kinker, Northport
Shayna Sumner, St Mary
Theo Noffsinger, Suttons Bay
Alex Bennett, Glen Lake**

As a result of the League's program earlier this month, a committee has been formed to organize a program, with these students, for all the county schools. It will be held at the Suttons Bay High School Auditorium on the afternoon of Thursday, January 23rd, in commemoration of Martin Luther King Day.



EDUCATION

The January 8th Leelanau League meeting will be devoted to two topics. One is local Program Planning for next year. The other is the new Education position proposed by the LWV Michigan. Each Michigan League has been sent materials to help members participate in this discussion.

You will find these papers on our website. Please go to lwvleelanau.org and look under Member Resources. There is a lot of information here. After our discussion, we submit our comments to the state office. From our and other League responses, a new position on education will be crafted.

As you think about making a year-end donation or if your family needs a suggestion, please consider a gift to the League of Women Voters Leelanau County (LWVLC) Ed Fund. Your contribution is tax-deductible and will be used to educate voters in the upcoming elections. Send a check to Jo Walker, Treasurer LWVLC.

**Visit our website
LWVleelanau.org**

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
LEELANAU COUNTY**

Holiday Gift Ideas That Emphasize Community, Ecological Sustainability and a Celebration of Non-material Values

by Ann McInnis

1. **Gifts of Time and Skill:** lessons (art, cooking, language, knitting, carpentry), household help (cleaning, gardening, yard work, errands, house sitting,) personal care, childcare, pet care (dog walking, pet sitting), career help, visit with homebound person.
2. **Gifts of Fun Experiences:** passes/memberships (to museums, local parks, gym, pool, zoos, etc.), Event tickets (to concerts, operas, plays, movies, lecture series, sporting events) Classes/lessons (art, cooking, photography, sports, dance, music, fishing, jewelry making, pottery, writing, knitting), outdoor pursuits (hiking, horseback riding, rafting, skiing, sailing, camping, boating), trips to farms, wineries, historical/cultural sites, local/ethnic tours, parks, protected natural areas, birding/wildflower/nature hikes.
3. **Gifts of Charity:** volunteer hours for a local organization, carbon offsets, donations to local charities such as Leelanau Children's Center, Food Pantry, Blessings in a Backpack, League of Women Voters Leelanau County, Inland Seas, Conservancy, Saving Birds Thru Habitat, Share Care, donations to favorite charity.
4. **Handmade and Local Gifts:** art, photography, recipe book, baked good, homemade meals, spice mixes, homemade blanket or quilt, knitted or crocheted items, handmade clothing, family stories, wooden toys, gift packages like Cherry Republic or Antique apples, handmade wooden toys.
5. **Second hand gifts** like household tools, sports gear, bike accessories, board games, wooden toys, gently used toys or clothing (Samaritan's Closet, Goodwill, Jaffe's or...), kitchen supplies, garage sales.
6. **Gift Cards** to local restaurants, local bookstores, CSA's, local farmer's markets, other local stores; car sharing; contributions to a college fund; purchases of local native plants, high quality seeds, bulbs or "black gold" compost; tickets to attend fundraising, music or educational events)
7. **Items from local fundraisers and tax-exempt org.** Bazaars, holiday markets, bake sales, garage sales, gifts from non-profits (Lighthouse, Dennis Museum, Sleeping Bear National Seashore, Conservancy, ISEA, etc).

HAPPY THANKSGIVING EVERYONE!