

GROSSE POINTE DEMOCRATS

September 2023

Michigan's largest chartered Democratic club

Serving the Grosse Pointes, Harper Woods and Detroit's east side



GP Dems love a picnic!

Our annual picnic is always a hit and this year was our biggest yet. Coney dogs, a table full of sweets and good conversations with friends were all on the menu on June 21 at Windmill Pointe.

Election season on our minds

As summer wraps up and we start to see fall colors, we're thinking more about election season. Over the next few weeks our club will hold events about local issues and prepare for November's municipal elections.

For the second election in a row, I expect Grosse Pointe Park to be very competitive, with a contested mayoral race and three open city council seats. Keep an eye on our emails and Facebook for updates.

Earlier this year our communications committee, chaired by Jeff Greer, analyzed the club's communications strategy to see how we can improve connections with members and the public. While we'll still use traditional channels, such as this newsletter, we'll improve and expand our reach on social media and digital platforms to get our message out and help voters make informed decisions.

We're just over a year from the 2024 presidential

election and getting ready to re-elect

President Joe Biden. Michigan will be competitive up and down the ballot. In addition to the presidential race,

we have an open U.S. Senate seat. We'll keep you posted as candidates visit our community and request time to speak at our meetings. This Senate race could define control of the next Congress. As you consider who to support in the primary I encourage you to vote for a smart, inspirational candidate. Let's turn away from negative campaigning that brings us all down, damages voter trust and destroys our credibility.

The American people have seen how bad and wrong Donald Trump has been for our country. All of the indictments of Trump and his allies who orches-



Message from the president

SAVE THE DATES!

6:30 p.m. Sept. 20 • Town hall at War Memorial: "Policy & Activism: The Future of Eastside Infrastructure."

6:30 p.m. Oct. 11 • General membership meeting at War Memorial.

6:30 p.m. Oct. 26 • Town hall at War Memorial: "Charter School Accountability and Impact on Communities."

Nov. 7 • ELECTION DAY!
Polls are open 7 a.m.-8 p.m. but we encourage you to vote early by absentee ballot.

6-8 p.m. Nov. 15 • GP Dems fundraiser at Sindbad's with guest speaker Joe Tate and the popular silent auction. More on Pages 2 & 3.

Continued on Page 2



Proud to support Pride!

GP Dems joined fellow supporters on June 19 for the annual Grosse Pointe Pride by We GP event in support of our LGBTQ community.

Read here  for how to donate silent auction items

The silent auction at last year’s November fundraiser was so popular we’re doing it again, on Nov. 15 at Sindbad’s. And you can help! If you’d like to donate auction items, contact Chris Keelean at cakeelean@yahoo.com or Olivia Coleman at colemanolivia1952@gmail.com.

Also this year, we are asking for Sponsors and Hosts. Sponsor is \$250, including two tickets, and Host is \$500, including four tickets. Contact Chris if you are interested in either of those.

Trump still a threat to democracy

Continued from Page 1

trated the Jan. 6 attack on our U.S. Capitol, plus attempts to alter election results in Michigan and other states, show us how far they will go to circumvent democracy. For me personally, this motivates me to work even harder to help Democrats win next year. We’ll keep you posted on plans for our local campaign office.

It’s been great having in-person events again! Congressman Shri Thanedar, State Sen. Kevin Hertel, State Rep. Veronica Paiz and House Speaker Joe Tate updated you about legislation at our membership meetings. We hosted a town hall on public school governance and are having two

more on Sept. 20 and Oct. 26 at the War Memorial. (Check out the calendar on Page 1 for details.)

And it was great seeing so many of you at our picnic!

Our next membership meeting is 6:30 p.m. Oct. 11 at the War Memorial, with endorsed candidates and other speakers. Come ready to learn about the fall elections and how you can help our candidates win.

And our annual fundraiser is 6-8 p.m. Nov. 15 at Sindbad’s in Detroit, a new venue for us. Michigan House Speaker Joe Tate will be our featured guest.

See you this fall. Remember to renew your membership for 2024!

Gary Bresnehan

GROSSE POINTE DEMOCRATIC CLUB officers and executive board

- President** Gary Bresnehan (GP)
- Vice President** Jackie Kalogerakos (HW)
- Vice President** Sandra Bucciero (GPW)
- Treasurer** Christan Keelean (GPP)
- Secretary** Jeff Greer (GPP)

At-large members

- Beverly Brown (DET)
- Shannon Byrne (GPF)
- Francesca Catalfo (GPF)
- John Clark (GPS)
- Olivia Coleman (DET)**
- Emily Everett (GPW)
- John Kalogerakos (GPF)
- Ed Keelean (GPP)
- Laura Kellett (GPF)
- Ernestine Lyons (HW)
- Addison Mauck (DET)
- Darci McConnell (GPP)
- La Vern Rutledge (HW)
- Roland Samaroo (GPF)
- Aaron Tavalire (GPF)
- Rose Tokatlian (DET)
- Christine Wujek (GPF)

Ex-officio members

- Tim Killeen (DET)
- Valerie Kindle (HW)
- Neil Sroka (GPF)

Past president

- Harry Kalogerakos (HW)

** campaign finance compliance officer

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

6-8 p.m. Nov. 15 at Sindbad's, 100 St. Clair, Detroit

Join us for an evening with friends, including our keynote speaker Joe Tate, Speaker of the House, and shopping at our silent auction*! We'll have a two-meat buffet with veggies, pasta, salad, dessert and nonalcoholic beverages. Cash bar available.



TICKETS

\$60 in advance (by Nov. 9)

\$75 at the door

\$40 for students

**Want to donate items for auction? See Page 2!*

SPONSOR AND HOST LEVELS - NEW THIS YEAR

Sponsor: \$250, includes two tickets

Host: \$500, includes four tickets

Reserve _____ tickets at \$60 each.

I can't attend but am enclosing a gift to support the club.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

*Occupation _____ * Employer _____

*Employer address _____ ZIP _____

Return by Nov. 9 with check made out to Grosse Pointe Democratic Club. Mail to Treasurer, Grosse Pointe Democratic Club, P.O. Box 36881, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236, or make a secure payment on our website at <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/gpd2023fundraiser>

Reservations will be held at the door. For more information, call 313-407-8907 or email cakeelean@yahoo.com.

Reminder: We will be accepting membership renewals at the event!

* Required by Michigan Campaign Finance Law. Contributions are not tax-deductible.



It's time to renew! Club membership coincides with the calendar year. Check the mailing label above for your last paid membership year. Renew by check with this form, online at gpdems.com or by scanning the QR code. As always, thank you!



Grosse Pointe Democratic Club • 2024 Membership

P.O. Box 36881, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236

- Member \$20 Sponsor \$50 Century Club \$100 Life \$500
- New Renewal Cash Check Credit Card

* Email _____

Name _____ Phone (_____) _____

Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____

** Occupation _____

** Employer _____ ** Address _____ ** ZIP _____

* Required for club announcements ** Required by Michigan campaign finance law Donations not tax-deductible