



December, 2016
LWVAA!

Happy Holidays from



Please join us for our 2016 Holiday Brunch

Saturday, December 10, 2016, 10:30am - 12:30pm

Sheraton Suites, 1989 Front Street, Cuyahoga Falls, 330-929-3000

This year's scheduled speaker is **Nadine Clar**, one of the decorators of the White House for the holidays last year.

Please RSVP and send a check for \$25.00 by 12/5 to LWVAA, PO Box 5449, Akron, Ohio 44334. The check should be made out to LWVAA or Paypal: http://www.lwvaa.org/mtg_2016-12-10.htm

We're proud to support Access Shelter at this year's brunch, more details on the reverse side and at www.lwvaa.org

[Click here to volunteer for the Committee to plan the LWVO Convention in May](#)

Message from the President

As 2016 draws to a close, there are a myriad of activities and distractions competing for our time. This is also a time for reflection and renewal. Looking back over the year, it is apparent that we are living in truly historic times.



LWVAA

Upcoming

Events

December 10, 2016



HOLIDAY BRUNCH

Sheraton Suites
1989 Front Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
10:30am-12:30pm

Co-sponsored with Hudson and
Tallmadge Leagues

PLEASE RSVP BY MONDAY 12/5!

Click [here](#) for more details or to pay online, and to see the list of items that would help Access Shelter, we'll be collecting donations again.

The results of the elections bring uncertainty and also hope that new leadership will benefit the majority of American people.

The best post-election advice I've heard is "don't listen to what they (our elected leaders) say, watch what they do." As we've already seen, promises and threats can disappear like smoke and actions say much more.

The League has much to be proud of this year. We greatly increased voter registration opportunities, held a well-received candidate forum, promoted VOTE411 as a source of election information. In addition to the educational forums, LWVAA raised its profile in the community significantly, making it a more familiar resource.

Members make our organization great. Thanks to all who have contributed time and talent for League sponsored events, and thanks to all our members who support the LWVAA with your dues and donations.

Best wishes for health, happiness and peace, now and in the coming year.

Barbara Hunsicker
President



Acme Cash Back Time

Submitted by Janice Jacobs

It's time to start saving your Acme tapes. Once again this year the fine folks at Acme Fresh Market are supporting the Community Cash Back program. This year the qualifying dates are: 08-11-16 thru 12-31-16.

To get the full scoop you can go to the [Acme Website](#) which explains that we receive 5% on eligible purchases and also outlines what items qualify as eligible. Acme brand items and many others are shown, including 2 new items: Cape Covelle seafood/fish and Nostimo yogurt. These are 2 popular brands in my household and I recommend both!

January 5, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Board Members only

January 14, 2017

LWVAA Planning Meeting

Location TBD

Planning and volunteer opportunities
for 2017, including LWVO
Convention

January 31, 2017

LWVO study on Primary Elections
due

February 2, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Board Members only

March 2, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Board Members only

At the end of each register tape, during the period shown above, the Community Cash Back amount is totaled. Just send those Acme tapes to me and I'll do the rest: Janice Jacobs, PO Box 26, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44222-0026

This has been a small but consistent fundraiser for League since 2002, and is easy!

The Election is over, now what?

Submitted by Jackie Derrow

Many of you were as active in this past election as I was: registering voters and working to increase understanding of candidates and issues through VOTE411.org and our candidate forum. Now that it's over, we need take a deep breath and renew our energies to improve participation in our government.

As we examine the results we see that at least two factors had a strong impact on the outcome of our state and congressional elections: 1) the current primary system, and 2) our gerrymandered districts. So there is work to be done and I'm offering two opportunities.

The Short Project

At the 2015 LWV Ohio convention delegates approved a study of primary election systems (PES). The PES study committee has prepared a study guide and a set of questions and is asking local leagues to form a committee to review the materials and submit consensus responses to the questions. Responses are due by January 31.

This is a short-term project need that shouldn't take more than an hour of reading followed by a meeting to agree on our League's responses. Please contact Jackie Derrow at jderrow@icloud.com or 330.869.5412 if you have an interest.

The Long-Haul Project

Ohio's 2016 U.S. Congressional election results were no surprise. As currently drawn, Ohio's 16 U.S. Congressional districts deliver "safe" seats to each of the parties they favor, 12 Republican and 4 Democratic. When districts are non-competitive, the elected representatives are more accountable to their parties than their constituents. With a safe road to victory, candidates have less reason to appeal to voters in the center and work for compromise once they get to Washington.

The Fair Districts = Fair Elections Coalition, of which the Ohio League is a member, seeks to reform the way

April 6, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Board Members only

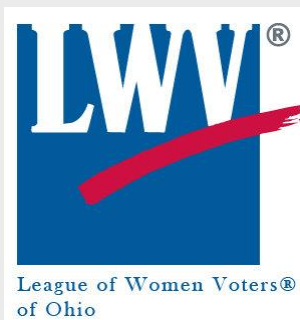
April 22, 2017

EARTH DAY



May 5-7, 2017

LWV Ohio Convention



Sheraton Suites
1989 Front Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Co-sponsored with Hudson,
Kent, and Tallmadge Leagues

Ohio's Congressional Districts are drawn with the goal of prohibiting, or at least reducing, partisan gerrymandering. Additionally, the Coalition seeks to increase fairness and accountability in the Congressional map-making process.

The coalition has a draft proposal. Your comments are wanted. To review the draft, go to www.fairdistrictsohio.org. The site also asks you to indicate your support for congressional redistricting.

These are first steps in a continuing effort to either get the legislature to move on redistricting reform or to introduce a ballot initiative. Stay tuned for more.

Akron Public Schools Board of Education Meetings

Submitted by Karen Barta
Email LWVAA if you would like to be an observer and click [here](#) to learn more about observer corps.

Akron Public Schools, Board of Education meeting, Nov. 28, 2016

Members present: Bruce Alexander, Patrick L. Bravo, Lisa Mansfield, Tim Miller, Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker, Sr., Debbie Walsh; not present: John R. Otterman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Patrick Petty, a student at David Hill Community Learning Center.

Community/school reflections were shared by Debbie Walsh and Bruce Alexander.

Superintendent David James gave Rev. Walker the privilege of introducing two teachers from Litchfield Middle School, which was recently named an International Baccalaureate school.

Minutes from the previous meeting and the superintendent's recommendations were approved.

Supt. James mentioned the recent knife attack at The Ohio State University because several Akron Public School students were on campus at the time. They were there for a career program, and James said they were all safe.

Board president Bruce Alexander mentioned a recent retirement and resignation of two employees.

Committee reports:

Email [LWVAA](#) if you would like to volunteer for the planning committee!

Welcome to our new members!

We're always excited to welcome new members, and if you want to learn more about LWVAA, please visit our [member page](#) online or [contact](#) Ardith Keck.

Frederica Cohen
Danielle Cordaro
Lisa Craig
Rebecca Fuller
Carla Goar
Kathy Loftus
Amanda Newton
Anita Young

Carla will also be joining our Board of Directors in January, we're thankful that she is willing to invest her time with LWVAA.

If you would like to volunteer in 2017, please consider attending our January 14 meeting as we plan events for the year, including the LWVO Convention in May. It will be held in NE Ohio and co-sponsored by all of the regional Leagues.



Newsletter Submissions

Legal, Contracts, & Board Policy Committee: Debbie Walsh
Finance & Capital Management Committee: Patrick Bravo
Instructional Policy & Student Achievement Committee: Rev. Walker

Unfinished business: Supt. James said that at the next meeting, a resolution would be prepared for the site selection for the new Kenmore-Garfield high school.

At 5:56 p.m., the board went into executive session.

Akron Public School, Board of Education meeting, Nov. 17, 2016

Members present: Bruce Alexander, Patrick L. Bravo, Lisa Mansfield, Tim Miller, Rev. Dr. Curtis T. Walker, Sr., Debbie Walsh; not present: John R. Otterman

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jae'Anthony Wharton, a student at Resnik Community Learning Center.

A Veteran's Diploma was awarded to John Edward Smith.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

The superintendent's recommendations were approved. Supt. James specifically mentioned the retirement of Karen Anderson, director of special education, and positive comments were made about the work that she has done. An agreement was entered into with METRO Regional Transit Authority to allow students in grades 9-12 to ride public buses to school.

The program will begin in January, 2017, and will cost the district \$1.00 each time a student rides a bus. METRO has agreed to increase service on core routes by running buses more frequently.

Unfinished business: Supt. James shared results of a search for a site for the proposed Kenmore-Garfield high school. He explained the pros and cons of each site.

At approximately 6:50 p.m., the board went into executive session.

At 7:32 p.m., board president Alexander reconvened the meeting.

New business: motions regarding an OCR (Office for Civil Rights) complaint and a resolution considering termination of a teaching contract were approved.

At 7:33 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

The Akron Voter is published by the League of Women Voters of the Akron Area to provide updates to our members and supporters.

If you would like to submit an article or idea to a future newsletter, please email us by the last day of the prior month to be included.

We also welcome suggestions and ideas that would improve overall communication.



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Contact us:

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