

LWVAA February, 2017

[View this email in your browser](#)



Click here to volunteer for the Committee to plan the LWVO Convention in May



LWVAA

Upcoming

Events

February 14, 2017
LWV Ohio Executive Director Carrie Davis speaking

Message from the President

One word that describes life in our country now is change. Most would agree that big changes are taking place in our government although there is disagreement as to whether they are positive or negative. It's easy to become discouraged if we don't agree with decisions coming from our governmental leaders.

For me, one of the positive aspects of my life is being an active member of the League of Women Voters. No matter what is going on at the local, state and federal levels, I don't feel hopeless or helpless because of the work of the League. The league's many positions in the areas of Government, Social Policy and Natural Resources reflect my values and it is comforting to know there are many like-minded people who share those values. The League's three levels of local, state and national insure that our voice and values are heard on many serious issues that affect our lives.

The motto, "Making Democracy Work" makes clear the overall goal of the league and supports its mission to promote education, advocacy and participation in government. Whether it's registering voters, holding an educational forum

Summit County Progressive Democrats Meeting

Location: Akron-Summit County Public Library, 60 S High St, Akron

Click [here](#) to see Carrie's bio

February 25, 2017

CVNP Lyceum Series
Historian to speak about racial and environmental issues

Happy Days Lodge, 500 W Streetsboro Rd, Peninsula

More details in the article below.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for children ages 3-12, and are expected to sell out. Buy tickets online at forcvnp.org/cvi or by calling 330-657-2909, option 4

March 2, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

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

Board Members only



March 7, 2017

LWV Ohio Statehouse Day

League members from around the state will hear about important public policy issues directly from key policy-makers and experts, and have the chance to ask questions.

on a hot topic like immigration, or testifying at a hearing, these activities help advance the league's mission. And they remind us that we are contributing to the solution.

I encourage all members to take the opportunity to educate yourselves on current issues and how to influence change by attending the Ohio League's biannual convention May 5-7. It takes place in our own back yard at the Sheraton Suites in Cuyahoga Falls and includes workshops on current topics as well as nationally known speakers. Watch for details in the near future. Registration is open at lwvohio.org

Barbara
President

Hunsicker

Women's March on Washington

The League of Women Voters supported the Women's March on Washington across the country, and LWV members in Cleveland were handing out free tee shirts and signing up members. Here is one LWVAA member's perspective and photos.

LWValso [posted suggestions](#) on ways to get involved after the March.

Where: Sheraton Columbus at Capitol Square
Registration: Member \$45, Non-member \$50, Student \$25, *Walk-In \$55

[Click here](#) to register today!

March 29-April 9, 2017

Cleveland International Film Festival (CIFF)

For the third year, LWVAA will be a Community Partner for an important CIFF film.

Look for more details soon!

Thank you to Jodie Delamatre for bringing us this opportunity, and to Ardith Keck for attending the film previews.

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



Submitted by Karen Barta, VP Programs (pictured above at the March)

My daughter Rachel Luther and I went to Washington, D.C., on January 21 on a Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America bus, but it quickly became clear that many issues and causes were being championed at the women's march: women's rights, the environment, immigration, refugees, LGBTQ issues, voting, free speech, and general concern for all people.



Women, men, and children marched, some

May 4, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

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

Board Members only

May 5-7, 2017

LWV Ohio Convention



League of Women Voters®
of Ohio

Sheraton Suites
1989 Front Street
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Co-sponsored with Hudson, Kent, and Tallmadge Leagues

Join us for LWVO's 62nd State Convention! State Convention is a wonderful time to come together in League, participate in dynamic workshops, share ideas and successes, plan for our League's future, catch up with old friends and make new ones.

[Registration](#) is open until April 28!

Registration Fees :

- Whole Weekend - \$150
- Saturday only - \$100
- Sunday only - \$50

Meal Tickets :

- Friday Pre- Convention Meet and Greet - \$35
- Saturday Keynote Luncheon - \$30
- Saturday Keynote Dinner - \$45

carrying signs indicating their home state. We walked to the Capitol with a group from Canada, one woman draped in the maple leaf flag.

The crowd was huge, but people were kind, respectful, and helpful. We left Washington that evening feeling invigorated and empowered.



The sign, which is partially folded over, says, "The world should be run by feminist science teachers."



- Special! \$10 off for all 3 - \$100

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

June 8, 2017

LWVAA Annual Meeting

Location and meal choices will be announced soon!



LWVAA Board Member Arrye Rosser attended the Women's March in Cleveland, along with many other LWV members.

The Observer Corps

By Jodie M. DeLamatre

For several years, Harriet Cutler has been a reliable observer to the Summit County MetroParks meeting. She steadfastly stuck with their changing schedule. For all that, I wanted to thank Harriet for her years of service to this most worthy activity.

She has recently decided to resign the position and so, we have another public meeting for a member to observe. If you are interested in covering the monthly meeting, please let me know. The next meeting is scheduled for February 7, 11:30 a.m. F.A. Seiberling Nature Realm, 1828 Smith Rd., Akron



In addition, you may be interested in one of these meetings:

Historian to speak about racial and environmental issues

Submitted by Arrye Rosser, Environmental Services Chair

Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park are teaming up to host historian David Stradling at Happy Days Lodge on Saturday, February 25 at 6:00p.m.

Stradling will transport you back to Cleveland in 1969, when Carl Stokes was in office as the first African-American mayor of a major U.S. city. Cleveland was in the midst of an environmental crisis that culminated in the Cuyahoga River fire.

The city was facing other challenges such as poverty, racism, and housing issues - all of which demanded Stokes' attention. Stradling will address the city's conflicted relationship with one of its most iconic historic events. He explores why the recovery of the Cuyahoga River and the revival of neighborhoods along its shores contrasts so sharply with the persistence of the city's racial and economic divide.

Tickets are \$8 for adults and \$3 for children ages

Summit County Council : 4th Monday, 4:30
County Council Committee: 1 or 3 Monday,
4:30

Akron City Council meets every Monday at 7
p.m. OR
City Council Committee meetings, Each
Monday at 2 p.m.

The primary reason for the Observer Corps is for local governments to know that we are there. We know from experience that elected officials take notice when a League member shows up to watch the proceedings. Sometimes the meetings are confusing and a lot of the business gets done in committee. Don't let that deter you. Being there is very important. In time, you will learn the machinations of the proceedings.

There are 3 things to remember if you decide to attend public meetings as a member of the Observer Corps.
1. Wear a League button identifying you as a League member. (ask me to get you one if you don't own one)
2. Do not offer comments of any sort since you are representing the League
3. If you are so inclined, submit a BRIEF synopsis, preferably by email, to me (jmgd3@neo.rr.com) of proceedings but this is secondary to attending the public meeting. This is NOT required.

Please let me know if you want to join this very observant group of members!

3-12, and are expected to sell out. Buy tickets online at forcvnp.org/cvi or by calling 330-657-2909, option 4.

Primary Election Systems Study Group Benefits from Consensus Process

Submitted by Jackie Darrow, Voter Services Chair

State league positions on topics bubble up from local League members who take the time to study a topic in depth and then seek the consensus of other local Leagues. If there is sufficient agreement and Board approval, the new position becomes part of the state "program" of positions on issues. The League has positions on everything from taxation to water quality and juvenile justice.

In early January while most of us were cleaning up after the holidays, eight LWVAA members practiced LWV's grassroots philosophy as we studied Ohio's primary election system. Study materials were developed by a study group whose members are from several local leagues after the study was approved at the 2015 state convention. We were asked to review them and share back our consensus on a series of questions.

Should our primaries remain partisan, where in most cases voters vote the ballot of their party affiliation, or should anyone be able to vote in a primary regardless of party affiliation? Our study group found there were pros and cons to each primary system variation and it was difficult to come to agreement. The majority agreed that political parties play a valuable role in most primaries for leaders like governors and representatives who don't have an administrative function, e.g., auditor, while a minority of our group felt a non-partisan approach was best for all primaries.

We all agreed, however, that in Ohio our highly partisan drawn districts more directly influence primary contest outcomes than our current primary election approach and therefore, redistricting should be addressed prior to any changes in the primary process. We also agreed that the group study process - where multiple viewpoints are shared - offers valuable insight on any issue we choose to review.

House moves to encourage drilling in National Parks

Congressman Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.) last night introduced H.J. Res. 46, which seeks to repeal updates to the National Park Service's "9B" rules.

The rules require detailed planning and set safety standards for oil and gas drilling inside the more than 40 national parks that have "split estate" ownership, where the federal government owns the surface but not the subsurface mineral rights.

Click [here](#) to read more about this issue.



[Join us today](#) to support democracy, nonpartisan political action, and voter rights in your community.

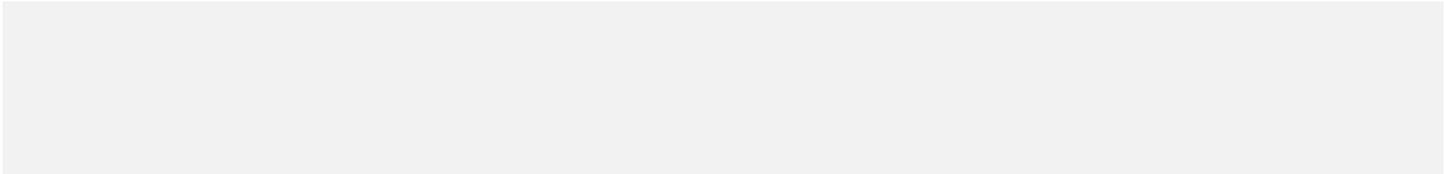




Copyright © 2017 *League of Women Voters of the Akron Area*, All rights reserved.

Contact us:
lwvaa@lwvaa.org

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)



This email was sent to jessiecoffey@outlook.com
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)
League of Women voters of the Akron Area · 380 Mineola · Christ United Methodist Church · Akron, OH 44320 · USA