

LWVAA June, 2017

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June, 2017



TONIGHT at 6:30PM! Fair Districts Training

LWVAA Office: 1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio

Learn the rationale behind the ballot initiative, equip yourself to speak knowledgeably to friends, small groups & potential petition signers

Please [RSVP](#) and bring a friend!



Photos courtesy of Bruce Greer



LWVAA

Upcoming

Events

June 12, 2017

A Message from our President LWVAA 2017 Annual Meeting

About thirty LWVAA members attended the 2017 Annual Meeting on June 8 at the Spaghetti Warehouse in Akron. Webmaster Bruce Greer presented a slide show of league activities over the past year while members dined on Italian fare and visited with fellow members.

Prior to convening the business portion of the meeting, Barbara Hunsicker reviewed the LWVAA's activities over the past year. At this time last year, the league office was moved from its home of 35 years to Westminster Presbyterian Church and operational costs were reduced through the use of a new online phone service and discontinuance of internet service. New operational activities included incorporating the information in the LWVAA member database into the LWVUS database and learning the new system for the VOTE411 online voter guide.

Fair Districts Training

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Voter service activities included a candidate's night held in September for Judicial and County Council candidates, as well as county executive candidates. The LWVUS' Vote411 online voter guide was implemented in the Akron Area and was made into a printed voter guide that was widely distributed throughout the city.

Actions voted on at the meeting included changes to the bylaws that now allow 16 and 17 year olds to join the league. In addition, the bylaws now allow co-presidents, a common arrangement in many leagues where the job is shared between two people. For the first time, the 2017-2018 budget incorporated financial support received from the Educational Fund, which helps pay for operational costs, voter education activities, and member payments to the state and national leagues. The new format shows actual costs of running the league office and paying for the services that carry out the mission of the league.

The LWVAA priorities adopted for 2017-2018 are focused primarily on getting the constitutional amendment to reform congressional redistricting in the manner similar to Issue 1, which was passed in 2015. Under Issue 1, a new commission composed of representatives of both parties will be tasked with redrawing state elected office districts following the 2020 census. The current petition provides for a comparable process that requires consensus of all members of the commission.

Jodie DeLamatre, who coordinates the Observer Corps informed the group of the purpose of the corps ad pointed out that it is a good way to become involved in league activities by attending public meetings of city and county council and the Akron School Board.

Ardith Keck, Membership chair reported that ten new members joined over the past year and that several were attending that evening. The practice of inviting new members to lunch or coffee with the President and Membership chair continues and is an enjoyable way to welcome new members.

The 2017-2018 board of directors includes two new members, Secretary Laurie Curfman and Program coordinator Kathleen Donaldson. Board members whose terms continue are Vice President of Voter Service and

July 1, 2017

**LWVAA New Fiscal
Year begins**

July 6, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

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

Board Members only

August 3, 2017

**LWVAA Summer
Picnic**

Mingo Lodge
Sand Run Park
1501 Sand Run Pkwy
Akron, Ohio

5:30p.m.

Please bring a dish to share!

LWVAA Board will meet briefly prior to the picnic at 5:00p.m.

President-elect Jackie Derrow, Treasurer John Fitzpatrick, Vice President of Operations Roberta Aber, Communications chair Jessie Coffey, Membership chair Ardith Keck, Natural Resources chair Arrye Rosser, Education chair Mary Ann Jopperi and at-large members Martha Lester and Carla Goar. I also have the honor of serving as your President for one more year.

The next League activity is the annual potluck picnic August 3 at the Mingo Pavilion at Sand Run Park. A board meeting will be held at 5:00 pm and the fun begins at 5:30 pm. In addition to great food prepared by members, an as-yet unnamed speaker will join us. If anyone has ideas for an engaging speaker who can discuss an issue of interest to the league, please contact me at president@lwvaa.org.

Barbara Hunsicker
LWVAA President

September 7, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

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

Board Members only



LWVAA SUMMER PICNIC

THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2017 AT 5:30PM

October 5, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

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

Board Members only

Sand Run Park, Mingo Lodge (pictured above)
1501 Sand Run Parkway, Akron, Ohio

Make plans to join us for the annual summer picnic in a beautiful setting, Sand Run Park's Mingo Lodge. Click [here](#) to find a 360 degree tour online!

November 2, 2017

LWVAA Board Meeting

1250 W. Exchange St.,
Akron, Ohio

The picnic is a chance for LWVAA members and guests to hear a special speaker and enjoy casual networking time. We ask each attendee to bring a main dish, side dish, or dessert - beverages, plates, and utensils will be provided.

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Board Members only

Welcome to our two new LWVAA Board Members,
Secretary Laurie Curfman and Program
coordinator Kathleen Donaldson!

Fair Districts for Ohio

As discussed at the Annual Meeting, Fair Districts for US Congress is the number one priority for both the State League and our Akron Area League.

We will offering training to LWVAA members and supporters so they will be able to comfortably explain the reasons behind the ballot initiative as leaders at community meetings and as volunteer petitioners for some of the 305,000 validated signatures required to get the measure on the 2018 ballot. These signatures must be collected by July 3, 2017.

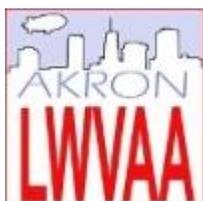
The next Fair Districts Training is Monday, July 12 at 6:30p.m. (TONIGHT!). If you want to find another way to help please [email](#) or call the League office at 330.836.7079 to discuss opportunities. **Ohio can't wait!**

The Fair Districts = Fair Elections Coalition seeks to reform the way 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.

In November 2015, voters overwhelmingly passed State Issue 1, which was proposed by the legislature. This bipartisan redistricting proposal created a more fair and transparent process for drawing state legislative districts - but it did not include Congressional districts. The Ohio General Assembly has failed to act and so now the Fair Districts = Fair Elections Coalition is taking congressional redistricting reform directly to the voters.

We are collecting signatures to put congressional redistricting reform on the ballot. We believe Ohioans deserve fair districts for all of our elected legislators, state and U.S. Congress.

For updates on the ballot initiative go to fairdistrictsohio.org



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

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Stay up-to-date with LWVUS

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