

LWV LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®
OF THE AKRON AREA
THE AKRON VOTER

Newsletter for LWVAA Members and Supporters

June, 2019

[Click here if you're interested in helping with LWVAA's Centennial Celebration Committee!](#)



LWVAA

Upcoming

Events

June 25, 2019

Centennial Corner

Suffrage March: Akron History

Hikes

A Message From the President

Dear Members,

2019 Annual Meeting Re-cap

We were near capacity at our Annual Meeting June 6 and enjoyed a nice evening with old and new friends, along with conducting a bit of business. LWV Ohio's new Board Chair, Iris Meltzer kicked off the evening by reviewing LWVO's achievements during the year.

The League's accomplishments were capped by the US District Court decision for the plaintiffs in the lawsuit brought by

University of Akron Law Library
150 University Avenue, Akron
11:30 a.m.

Click [here](#) to sign up and receive
a free parking pass



August 8, 2019

**Acme Cash Back starts up
again!**

Acme Cash Back program starts
up again, collect those receipts
and a portion of the \$\$ will go
right back to League!

Thank you to Janice Jacobs who
runs this for us every year!

**[Look for SignUpGenius
requests in your email to
sign up to register voters
for summer events!](#)**

the ACLU in which LWVO was one of the lead plaintiffs. The decision requires that Ohio re-draw its U.S. Congressional map by June 20. As you're aware, the state appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court and the Court ordered a stay that puts a hold on the remedial plans they are drafting until the court rules on two lawsuits, one from North Carolina alleging extreme Republican gerrymandering and one from Maryland alleging extreme Democratic gerrymandering. The high court's decision will come down this month.

Iris reminded us that the ACLU filed the lawsuit because even though Ohio approved a new process for redistricting in May 2018, those new maps won't go into effect until 2022 and – in case you didn't notice – there's a presidential election in 2020. As well there's great concern that the basis of any new map, the 2020 U.S. Census, is at risk for a significant population undercount, particularly in urban areas like Akron.

As an aside, Summit County has formed a Complete Count Committee to help facilitate full participation in the Census. The Board appointed Liz King to represent LWVAA on the committee and welcomes volunteers interested in supporting the community's efforts.



August 25, 2019

**Women's Equality Day
Celebration at the Akron
Rubber Ducks**

2:00 p.m.

Joint event with LWV of Hudson,
Kent, and Portage + NE Ohio Girl
Scouts

Details posted [here](#) when they
are released

LWVAA Board Meetings

August 1

September 5

October 3

November 7

December 5

6:30-8:00 p.m.

1250 W. Exchange St., Akron,
Ohio

Onto LWVAA business, the members approved the following items that were submitted to you via email: 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes, 2019 Budget, 2019 Priorities and the Nominating Slate of Officers and Directors, including one nomination from the floor, Gloria Irwin who will serve as an At-large Board Member. Congrats to the new and continuing board members. We are grateful for your service.

John Fitzpatrick introduced us to the home page of our new LWVAA website which we expect will be up and running sometime this summer. The banner at the top of the home page reads, "Democracy is NOT a Spectator Sport." As members we should take that message to heart and do our best to act on issues for which we hold positions, particularly with respect to voting rights and voter education.

Thank you all for your support of LWVAA during this very critical time.

Jackie Derrow, LWVAA President

**Step up to the Plate for
Women's Equality Day!**

Wear white and bring your friends and family to enjoy a Rubber Ducks game while celebrating women's attainment of

Board Members only

the vote Sunday, August 25 at 2pm.

LWVAA is partnering with the Hudson, Kent and Portage LWVs, the NE Ohio Girl Scouts and others in this tribute to those who fought so hard for our rights.

Join with our LWVO Executive Director who will be singing the national anthem supported by a local choir, suffragists marching on the field during the 7th inning stretch, a bit of history on the Jumbotron and more.

Spread the word: This is sure to be a memorable event for people of all ages.



LWVO State Convention

Submitted by Rosanne Winter

The Ohio League of Women Voters' convention was held in Columbus on May 10 - 12, 2019. Jackie Darrow, Barbara Hunsicker, and Rosanne Winter from LWVAA attended numerous workshops, plenary sessions, table discussions, the Keynote Lunch, and the Inaugural Gala!

The workshops we attended centered on Advocacy, Lobbying, the For the People Act, Voter Registration, Voting Rights, Diversity, and Equity and Inclusion. Plenary sessions dealt with the business of the League including presentations of budget, development plan, 2019-2020 program, action resolutions, and election of new officers.



The luncheon keynote address was delivered jointly by Dr. Ric Sheffield and Dr. Carol Lasser and outlined the history of voting in Ohio for women and people of color. The keynote speaker at the Gala, Rosie Rios, 43rd Treasurer of the United States, shared her thoughts about our society's perceptions about women in leadership and discussed actions she has taken to strengthen the perception of women as equal participants in all societal functions – including governing.

The information and tools collected by your representatives at the State Convention will be utilized to strengthen the influence The League of Women Voters of the Akron Area will have on Making Democracy Work!

Acme Cash Back = \$\$\$ for LWVAA

Submitted by Janice Jacobs

Our Cash Back check for 2018, in the amount of **\$158.89**, has been received. This was about \$11.00 more than last year. A special Ed Fund thank you to newsletter editor Jessie Coffey who included reminders to members and friends to save their tapes & that has really made a difference.

Over the years, competition for Acme tapes has become fierce among non-profits! Thank you to all our contributors:

Anonymous

*Lois Arnold Linda Blake Jill Cabe

Jessie Coffey Laurie Curfman Jodie Delamatre

Jackie Darrow Kathy Duncan Nicole Gandee

Sharon Gandee Mary Lou Gault Gerry Hall

Rayeann Helms Bonnie Horovitz Barbara Hunsicker

Cathy Hunt Janice Jacobs Ardith Keck

Ros Mather Judy Nicely Jean Questel

Sue Reitz Sandra Smith Marge Thiel Paula Warner

Also, many thanks to the fine folks at Acme. Throughout the inception of this program contributions of more than \$1.6 million have been made to various non-profit Akron area community organizations.

The next Cash Back period will begin on, August 8. Indications are the program items and other details will remain the same as for 2019. Just remember to look for the little "Acme Cash Back" printout at the end of your register receipt.

If you send 'em to me I'll turn them into cash!



Suffrage March: Akron History Hikes

Put on your comfy shoes and join Summit Historical Society's Suffrage March at 11:30am, Tuesday, June 25.

The event begins at The University of Akron Law Library, 150 University Avenue, Akron, where you'll receive a primer on the suffragists' struggle by Tracy A. Thomas, Seiberling, Chair of Constitutional Law, and then march to a special exhibit at the Akron-Summit County Public Library prepared by Mary Plazo, Special Collections Manager.

Click [here](#) for a printable parking pass for the University of Akron Law School parking lot and a sign up form for free tickets

Legislative Update

Submitted by Jackie Derrow, LWVAA President

Contact your Legislators

Watch for LWVO ACTION ALERTS that request action on pending state and federal legislation. The Alerts provide information on the issue, talking points and easy ways to contact your state representatives. Below is a summary of recent alerts.

CENSUS FUNDING

ASK your state senator to help ensure we count every Buckeye by supporting the funding of Census work.

House Bill 6. The "Clean" Energy bill passed out of the house and is now in the senate. The bill bails out FirstEnergy Solutions' aging nuclear plants, which arguably represent 90% of Ohio's carbon-free energy, but in the last re-write, it also bails out two FirstEnergy coal plants while eliminating the current mandates for renewable energy.

ASK your state senator to **VOTE NO** on HB 6. Ohio needs to encourage clean energy. This bill needs a significant re-write to achieve that.

HB154. The Ohio School Transformation Plan would end the state take over of schools and instead require the creation of community learning centers for schools in low performing districts. It is a constructive solution to the failed state takeover law that is now at risk!

HB 154 was overwhelmingly approved by the House. **Now, some senators want to replace the old plan with a new state intervention that includes funding for consultants but not children.** The Ohio School Transformation Plan, like the failed policy it would replace:

- Includes loss of local control.
- Uses standardized tests to define school quality, a misuse of standardized tests that produces a narrow definition of quality.

- Discriminates against poor children.
- Assumes low test performance is a governance problem.
- Neither increases the state investment in public schools nor levels the playing field - conditions needed before accountability can be fair.

ASK your state senator to oppose a plan that perpetuates the misuse of standardized tests, distrusts local leaders, and punishes poor children.

To locate your state senator, click [here](#)

For your state representative, click [here](#)

Federal Legislation

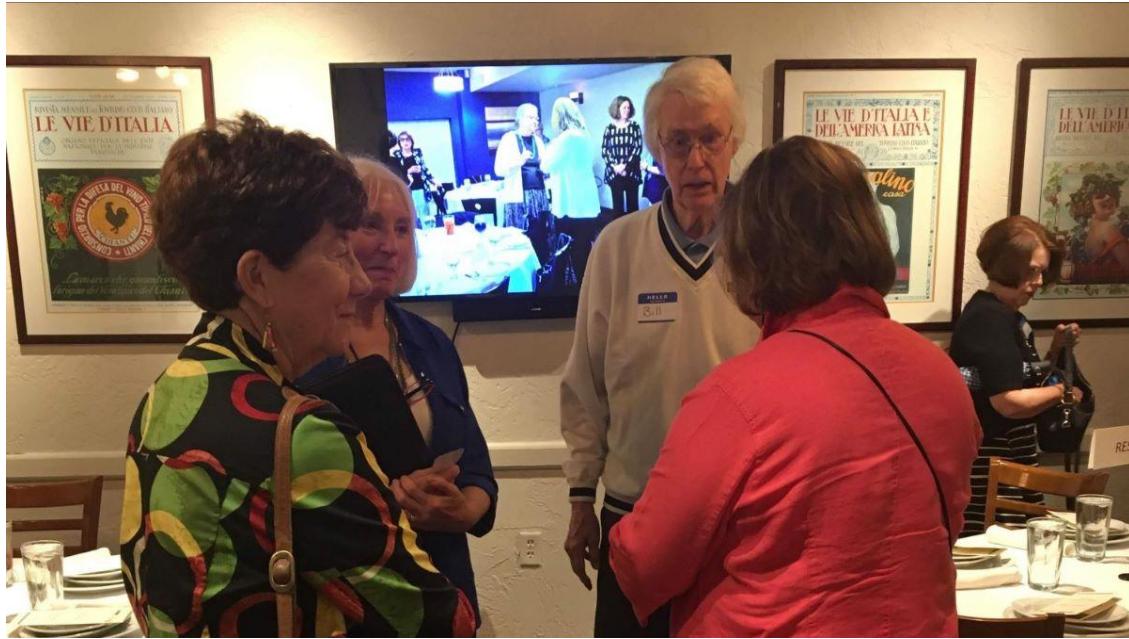
U.S. House Resolution 1, THE FOR THE PEOPLE ACT. The provisions in the Act will modernize our election system, reform redistricting, restore the Voting Rights Act, and improve transparency in our elections. The For the People Act will improve American elections by making our election system more free, fair, and accessible to all eligible Americans.

ASK U.S. Senator Portman, (202) 224-3353, to call for a hearing on the For the People Act (S. 949). [Note: Those of us who attended the Annual Meeting completed postcards with this request.]

2019 Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Annual Meeting on June 6! We had a wonderful dinner at Bravo Cucina at Summit Mall, enjoyed updates from our Board, and perspective from our President Jackie Derrow.

We also enjoyed comments from our special guest Iris Meltzer from LWV Ohio Board. We appreciate you and look forward to a great year!





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

Stay up-to-date with LWV Ohio

[Website](#)

[The Ohio Voter](#)

Stay up-to-date with LWVUS

[Website](#)

[The National Voter](#)