



2017 FEBRUARY VOTER

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President's Notes - by Nancy Dawley

A birthday of 97 years is worth a real celebration. ***Making Democracy Work*** is an event where LWVCA members, friends, and the Cincinnati Area community will be on Saturday, February 11, 1:30 – 4:00 PM. Please invite your family members and friends to join the festivities with us. Enjoy conversations with like-minded people interested in their community, sample special food and drink, browse unusual auction items, and remind people you appreciate them with the gift of a yellow rose. [Purchase your ticket here](#).

There is still time to [add a donation to the silent auction](#). A donation could be a few days at your cabin in the woods; cooking a special menu; lessons on a craft or hobby. All of these and more will add money to the Education Fund so that LWVCA can educate more voters.

The League has chosen to honor the Ohio Innocence Project with the League's Making Democracy Work award. Located at the University of Cincinnati, College of Law, this small organization of 16 - 20 part-time law school "fellows" works to free wrongfully convicted people. [UC Magazine](#) provides a lot of background on how it works. You may want to [put an ad in our program](#) or congratulate members of the Innocence Project.

Making Democracy Work is a lovely way to spend a wintry afternoon with friends new and old, and a great way to honor those of the Ohio Innocence Project - local people making democracy work in our judicial system.



Join us for



Making Democracy Work Celebration



*“We march to protect our rights to vote. We march to reform money in politics.
We march for health care. We march for the environment.”*

LWVCA is looking for special skills and enthusiasm

- Are you a librarian, archivist, history buff, or Cincinnati lover? 2020 will be the 100th anniversary of the League of Women Voters. The LWVCA is looking ahead towards celebrating this milestone. Would you be interested in browsing our historical files to pick out some of the highlights of the Cincinnati League’s work in government and human rights? We would like to begin remembering these important contributions to our community.
- Do you have experience with content management systems (CMS) for WordPress or Squarespace? We are anticipating shifting the LWVCA website during the summer to one of those two platforms. Are you, or someone you can recommend, interested in working on this project?



Your help on either or both of these projects will be greatly appreciated. Let us know of your interest by sending an email to president@lwcincinnati.org or by calling (513) 281-VOTE (8683).

GRASSROOTS hard at work!



Members of the Cincinnati Area and Clermont Leagues met Saturday morning January 21 to discuss Ohio’s primary election system and see whether there is consensus to recommend a new state position. Learn more about consensus [here](#).

Comments from the 29 participants were enthusiastic. “It’s exciting to share ideas with other League members.” “I learned so much about primary elections.” “Terrific job with the Saturday morning meeting! We so appreciate that many of us could participate in the whole discussion before heading down to the Women’s March.”

Results from the meeting will be combined with other Leagues around the state. We will report the final recommendation of the state Board before the Convention in May.

Public Invitation to Hear from Local Government Leaders on February 13

~ submitted by Helen and Don Rhoad



The Northeast Evening Unit of the League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area (LWVCA) will meet on Monday, February 13, 2017, to discuss the past and future opportunities for our various levels of government and how to operate more efficiently by working together.

The Unit discussion will be held in the Meeting Room of the Madeira Public Library, on the corner of Euclid & Miami Road, beginning at 7:00 pm and the public is invited to attend.

This program will feature remarks by Hamilton County Commissioner Denise Driehaus and representatives of jurisdictions within Hamilton County. This panel of experienced government leaders will discuss past examples and future possibilities with which they are familiar, and the panel members will respond to questions from the audience.

"This special meeting is the only unit meeting in February. All units meet again in March to discuss Poverty and Housing based on the book "Evicted" by Matthew Desmond."

We urge you to promote membership and engagement in your Local League at this time as people are seeking ways to become involved and make a difference. Look for ways your League can be visible. Focusing on Congressional redistricting, an area in which lots of work needs to be done, can provide such an opportunity. This link will be most helpful. <http://www.fairdistrictsohio.org/>



"FOR THE LOVE OF THE COMMUNITY"

There is a lot of positive change happening at **Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati!** For 2017 they have planned for you a new event, a Valentines Party "For the Love of the Community". This special gathering will serve as their only fundraising event of the year, and enable their member organizations to better focus on their missions. Come, join the Community Shares community of supporters. The dollars raised provide critical support for its operations, including the League. Please purchase your tickets [HERE](#).

Please note Community Share's new address - Community Shares of Greater Cincinnati, 315 W. Court Street Cincinnati, OH 45202. Their new phone number is 513-724-GIVE (4483)

Monthly Discussion Topics

- September** - "Encouraging Voting in a Time of Challenges to Voter Rights (discussion units)
- October** - Ballot Issues (forum and unit discussions)
- November** - Urban League's report on the State of Black Cincinnati (discussion units and general meeting)
- December** - Ride the Streetcar Holiday Event & Public Transit Issues
- January** - Ohio Primary Election Systems Study and State Program Planning
- February** - Making Democracy Work Celebration (**Only NE Unit Meeting**)
- March** - Poverty & Housing, based on the book Evicted by Matt Desmond (discussion units)
- April** - Forum on MSD with a panel of speakers and Aging Infrastructure & Funding Challenges (discussion units)

UNIT MEETING DAY

- 2nd Monday: Northeast Evening, 7pm
- 2nd Tuesday: Hilltop North 12pm; Anderson & Warren/Butler, 7pm
- 2nd Wednesday: Central Evening, 6:15pm
- 3rd Wednesday: Eastern Day, Metro Day, 12pm

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- **Wednesday, February 1** Education Committee, 4:00 pm, LWVCA Conference Room
- **Wednesday, February 1** LWVCA Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, LWVCA Conference Room
- **Tuesday, February 7** LWVO All-Member Conference Call, noon
- **Friday, February 10** Naturalization Ceremony, 1:00 pm, St. Dominic Elementary, 371 Pedretti Road
- **Saturday, February 11** 2017 Making Democracy Work, 1:30 pm, Kennedy Heights Art Center Annex
- **Tuesday, February 14** Board of Elections meeting, 8:30 am, BOE Office
- **Thursday, February 16** Community Shares, 6 pm - "For the Love of the Community" - Hotel Covington
- **Wednesday, February 22** Program Development Committee Meeting, LWVCA Conference Room
- **Thursday, February 23** Naturalization Ceremony, 2 pm, US District Court Clerk, Rm 842
- **Friday, February 24** Naturalization Ceremony, 11 am, St James Elementary School, 3565 Hubble Rd.
- **Wednesday, March 1** LWVCA Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, LWVCA Conference Room

SAVE THE DATE - LWVO EVENTS

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 - State League of Women Voters State House Day, Sheraton at Capitol Square. Registration: Member \$45, Nonmember \$50, Student \$25, *Walk-In \$55. [Click here to register today!](#) Stay tuned for speakers and workshop topics.

May 5 - 7, 2017 - State Convention, Sheraton Suites, Cuyahoga Falls. Speak up if you would like to be an LWVCA delegate to this convention. [Click here to register today.](#)

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**MAKING
DEMOCRACY WORK®**

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization, which encourages informed and active participation in government. Membership is open to women and men at least 16 years old. Call (513) 281-VOTE (8683) and [join us.](#)