



The Bulletin

Making democracy WORK

April/May 2017

Dates to Remember

- * Board Meeting,
May 4th, 6 p.m.,
NUMC
- * **LWV Meet & Greet, May 11th, 6 p.m., Thunderbird**
- * Lunch with LWV,
May 19th, Noon,
Scottish Rite
- * Annual Meeting,
June 3rd, 10 a.m.,
Aristocrat
- * Lunch with LWV,
June 16th, Scottish
Rite

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Busy times ahead for membership!

It's Annual Meeting time!

As many of you know, summer used to be a slower time for LWV Indy—not this year! It seems a busy season is starting off strong with the State Convention at the end of April. Hoping for some exciting news to share with membership when I get back.

First off, I hope to see a lot of you out at our membership event on May 11th at the Thunderbird in Fountain Square. Our membership is now **OVER 100** so it's more important than ever to connect!

Our Annual Meeting will be on June 3rd, 2017 at the Oxford Room (located within the Aristocrat). They have been lovely hosts to us the past few years and we are looking forward to meeting there again. Be on the look out for your invite and RSVP cards in the mail. If we sell out spaces, we will be sure to implement a waiting list (we have room for 60 folks).

July will feature Old Board/New Board, and a fantastic event at Landmarks on July 7th (see the flyer inside your Bulletin). As more information comes together regarding this event, we will absolutely share!

Yours in League,

Rhea Cain

President, LWV of Indianapolis

LWV Meet & Greet in Fountain Square!

When? **May 11th at 6 p.m.**

Where? **Thunderbird, 1127 Shelby Street**

New member of LWV Indy? Rejoined recently? Established Member? We want to get to know **YOU!** Our membership has grown exponentially, and we want to connect with our members to talk with you, connect you with committee members, board members and other League members to make sure you get the most out of your association with LWV Indy!

Join us on Thursday May 11th at the Thunderbird in Fountain Square. We will have appetizers, League Materials, and great conversation for you!

GET INVOLVED

Annual Meeting 2017—June 3rd, 2017



Invites are on the way and the speakers are set!

We are very excited to announce that Amber Stearns of *NUVO* and Shannon Williams of the *Indianapolis Recorder* will be joining us for discussion on the importance of the independent media and their role in our society in our current political climate.

This will be an amazing discussion with two well versed journalists that work hard to bring news and information to the city of Indianapolis.

Please know—the Oxford Room at the Aristocrat can seat 60 folks, so be sure to get your rsvp's in as soon as possible! We will keep a waiting list if needed. We also plan to live stream the discussion portion of our meeting on Facebook.

Volunteer THANKS!

A big THANK YOU to all our many dedicated volunteers who have made our work possible:

- Debbie Asberry
- Sarah Halter
- Lyn Hoyer-Rogers
- K.D. Thurman
- Mary Boggs
- Karen Kay Leonard
- Betsy Bayne
- Kim Irwin
- Harriet Wilkins
- Carol Fowler



Event Ideas? Speaker Ideas?

Heard about a great event you think LWV Indy should know about? Or maybe you know of someone doing great work in our community? Maybe it would be great for them to share their mission and outcomes with groups like the League?

Let us know! Send an e-mail to membership@lwvindy.org !



Freedom School 2017

Last summer, LWV of Indianapolis sponsored a matching donation campaign to help Indiana's first Children's Defense Fund Freedom School get off the ground. You responded enthusiastically! Our goal was to match \$1,000 in donations and while we came up a little short, we were able to contribute a total of \$1,668! That was a huge help to the success of the Freedom School. And the results are in, it was a big success! The scholars that attended Freedom School last summer had an 81% learning retention rate. The school had 48 enrolled scholars between the ages of 6 and 14, with an average daily attendance of 25 over the 5 weeks. I volunteered for meal service and was able to observe some of the activities. It was gratifying for me to watch the children blossom over time. Children who were at first shy and withdrawn during morning Harambee' were fully engaged by the end of the 5 weeks (Harambee' is right after breakfast and is a lively, informal time of singing, dancing, "shout-outs," and sharing between scholars and staff).

Your Indianapolis League also sponsored a fun Parent's Night activity, complete with pizza and salad. We introduced the League of Women Voters, talked about the importance of voting, the history of the League, and we even registered a few voters.

We are very excited to participate in the 2nd year of the Freedom School. The project, developed nationally by The Children's Defense Fund, and sponsored locally by All Souls Unitarian Church, will help prevent summer learning loss in dozens of children from Robert Lee Frost School and Brook Park Elementary.

- The Children's Defense Fund's Freedom School model is defined by five essential components:
- High quality academic enrichment, which includes age- and culturally-appropriate books that are part of an Integrated Reading Curriculum involving reinforcing activities, field trips and games.
- Parent and family involvement at multiple levels, from classroom assistance, to supporting community projects, to attending meals.
- Social action and civic engagement by children and youth so that they are prepared to be active citizens. Participants engage in solving community problems and social justice work, including through a National Day of Social Action.
- Intergenerational servant leadership development, by hiring college students and recent graduates to deliver the program, many of whom have had Freedom School experiences themselves.
- Nutrition, health and mental health, by requiring programs to provide – at a minimum – two USDA-compliant meals and a snack each day of operation, while training staff to recognize the importance of providing therapeutic health and mental health services.

Please go to www.childrensdefense.org/programs/freedomschools for more information and stay tuned for ways to get involved this summer. We hope you'll want to be an active part of this exciting program!

Betsy Bayne, Treasurer

Lunch with LWV Summary

Lunch with LWV continues to meet the third Friday of every month except December, January and March in the Truman Room adjacent to the Double Eagle Café in the Scottish Rite Cathedral. This past year attendance continued to vary, however, attracting speakers was not a problem. During the past year the following list of speakers enlightened LWV Members and their friends on a variety of topics.

June: Charles Dunlap, Executive Director of “We the People” project, an essay contest for youth to address civic responsibility sponsored by the Indiana Bar Association. 7 LWV members were motivated to help with IPS’s mock election following this presentation.

July: Anastassia Zinke, Minister of All Souls Unitarian Church, sponsors of A Children’s Defense Fund, Freedom School, a summer enrichment program for students of IPS 106 and Brooke Park Elementary (Lawrence Township). LWV of Indianapolis is a collaborating partner.

August: Sen. Karen Tallian, Senator from Portage, Indiana serving as member of the Redistricting Legislative Committee, past president of Porter County LWV provided an update of legislative action in 2016.

September: Shaina Cavoazos, journalist with Chalkbeat, gave an overview of education issues.

October: Addison Pollock, Indiana Citizens Alliance for Transit, provided information regarding the Transit Referendum.

November: Jon Schwantes of Indiana Lawmakers reflected on 2016 election results.

February: Paulette Vandegriff, past president of LWVIN, current President of Board of Directors for Indiana Coalition for Human Services provided an update on legislation affecting human services.

March: Jennifer Nelson Williams, co-founder of Women4Change Indiana spoke at the annual LWV, AAUW and CWU collaborative luncheon. Many ideas on how women can become more active in their community as agents of change.

April: Elizabeth Standiford of Exodus Refugee provided an update on the current state of resettlement of refugees in Indianapolis.

May: William Blomquist, Professor of Political Science and Adjunct Professor of Public and Environmental Affairs at IUPUI will share some of his research on safety of water.

Lunch with LWV Summary, Continued

Please plan to join us for the following programs:

June: Terry Mumford from Impact 100 of Greater Indy.

July: David Orentlicher will review his concept of two presidents.

August: Sen. John Ruckelshaus (R) and Rep. Carey Hamilton (D) will share their experience of first term legislators and explain their model of non-partisanship cooperation.

September: Taamy Themel of Ability Indiana, an organization supporting the employment of people with disabilities.

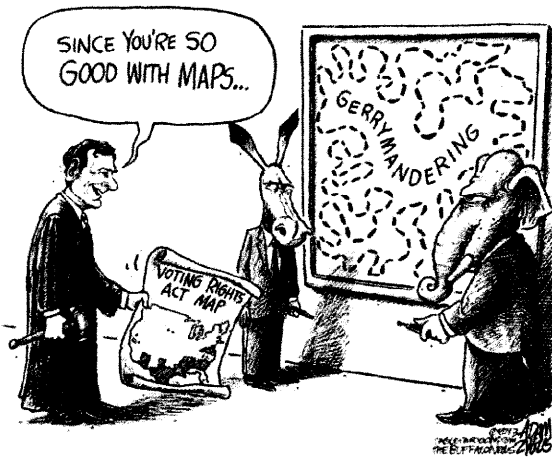
October: Lisa Marchal, Sr. Associate Global Grassroots, for RESULTS, an organization supporting the establishment of political will to end hungry.

Suggestions for programs are always welcomed. Please contact Mary Boggs at marybboggs@yahoo.com or 317-845-4238.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Boggs, Program Coordinator

As always, we want to extend a very special THANK YOU to Mary Boggs for all her hard work on Lunch with LWV. She works hard to make sure our members have wonderful speakers every month! We hope you can make some of our upcoming dates!



DEMOCRACY IS NOT
A SPECTATOR SPORT.



Common Cause & NAACP Suit Seeks Funding

From our partners at Common Cause:

Common Cause Indiana is a non-profit citizens lobbying group that works for open, honest and accountable government. We want to ensure that all Hoosiers have equal access to voting but right now, that's not the case for voters in Marion County.

Our Case

In person early voting has become very popular so most counties are expanding the number of early voting locations. Under state law, doing so requires a unanimous vote of the county election board. Unfortunately, since 2010, one person, the Republican appointee to the Marion County Election Board, has refused to support early voting at satellite locations. In Indiana's most populous county, those who choose to vote early must travel downtown to the County Clerk's office. Parking is difficult and the lines are long - this negatively impacts voter turnout.

It is also unconstitutional. Our constitution says that all voters have to have the same access and currently, voting is less accessible in Marion County than in surrounding communities. That is why Common Cause IN has filed a lawsuit to force the county election board and state to make more early, in-person satellite voting locations available in Marion County.

Why We Are Crowdfunding

Our legal team is donating their services but we will have significant expenses associated with this lawsuit. Please help make it possible for us to raise the issues of inequity, and particularly the disproportionate burden this has on minority voters, before the courts, by making a donation of \$20 today.

We need to raise at least \$5,000 immediately to retain our expert and start the research process so we'll have a decision before the next election cycle in 2018. If we can make it to our stretch target of \$10,000 we'll have enough to finish the work and won't have to worry about doing additional fundraising. Please do what you can to help us get this done.

Indiana's voter turnout rate is among the nation's lowest. Instead of making voting less accessible, our state should strive for an easy and convenient election process. They certainly shouldn't allow partisan politics to get in the way of voting access. Help us force election officials at the state and county level to give voters in Marion County the same access to early voting that our neighboring counties have.

If you are so inclined to donate to this cause, please visit:

<https://www.crowdjustice.com/case/equal-access-to-voting/>



Nominating Slate for 2017-2019 Board Service

Nominations for 2017-2019 Term

Treasurer: Betsy Bayne

Secretary: Laura Albright

Directors: Kim Irwin, Debbie Asberry and Lenora Maze

Thank you to the Nominees —who are all retaining their positions.

Have you thought about Board Service? Please—we would LOVE to hear from you! Please reach out to Rhea Cain at rheacainlwvindy@yahoo.com . Board work could be the perfect place to put your passion into action!



To prepare for Annual Meeting, LWV Indy is required by our by-laws to provide members the following information: Nominating Slate, Balance Sheet, Current Year's Budget & Actual Income, and a Proposed Budget. The financial information follows:

League of Women Voters Indianapolis
Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2017

Checking	\$3,757
Memorial Fund	\$4,398
Money Market	\$26,421
Paypal Account	\$728
CD #1	\$10,076
CD #2	\$6,194
Total Assets	<u>\$51,574</u>
Fund Balance	\$52,079
Income less Expenses	<u>(\$505)</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$51,574</u>

All funds are held at National Bank of Indianapolis.

League of Women Voters Indianapolis
2016-17 Budget & Actual Income & Expenses as of March 31, 2017

	<u>2016-17 Budget</u>	<u>Current Year*</u> <u>Actual as of 3/31/17</u>
<u>Income</u>		
Member Dues (est. 80 x \$50) (Note 1)	\$4,000	\$4,875
Contributions	\$750	\$825
Interest	\$100	\$137
Reserves (income less expenses)	\$5,890	\$505
Total Income	\$10,740	\$6,342
<u>Expenses</u>		
LWVIN PMP (80 x \$15)	\$1,200	\$1,240
LWVUS PMP (80 x \$31)	\$2,400	\$872
Transfers from Ed Fund for PMP	(\$1,320)	\$0
NUMC Rent (\$50/month)	\$600	\$400
Voicemail service (\$15/month)	\$180	\$150
Web hosting	\$200	\$200
Office administration	\$200	\$68
Postage	\$400	\$377
Insurance	\$200	\$229
Committee expenses	\$100	\$64
Membership services & events	\$350	\$12
Special events (Note 2)	\$200	\$0
Annual meeting	\$400	\$0
Lunch with LWV	\$80	\$0
General meetings	\$100	\$0
LWVUS Convention (Note 3)	\$100	\$0
LWVIN Council/Convention/Workshops (Note 4)	\$600	\$60
Member publications (Note 5)	\$1,000	\$563
Sponsorships/coalitions	\$1,500	\$533
Public relations/advertising	\$2,000	\$1,346
Advocacy	\$100	\$0
Fundraising	\$150	\$228
Total Expenses	\$10,740	\$6,342

*The actual column reflects the first 9 months of activity for the current fiscal year.

Note 1: Life members pay zero dues, 2nd household member & students pay half dues.

Note 2: Includes events that involve in-and-out money, such as pre-payments for tickets.

Note 3: LWVUS convention is held every other year in even-numbered years.

Note 4: LWVIN Fall Workshops @ approx. \$30/person; LWVIN Convention @ approx. \$120/person.

Note 5: Printing & supply costs for bulletins, postcards, meeting notices, etc.

League of Women Voters Indianapolis
2017-18 Proposed Budget

	<u>2017-18</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Member Dues (est. 90 x \$50) (Note 1)	\$4,500
Contributions	\$1,000
Interest	\$100
Reserves (income less expenses)	\$7,070
Total Income	\$12,670
<u>Expenses</u>	
LWVIN PMP (90 x \$15)	\$1,350
LWVUS PMP (90 x \$31)	\$2,790
Transfers from Ed Fund for PMPs	(\$1,530)
NUMC Rent (\$50/month)	\$600
Voicemail service (\$15/month)	\$180
Web hosting	\$200
Office administration	\$200
Postage	\$600
Insurance	\$200
Committee expenses	\$100
Membership services	\$350
Special events (Note 2)	\$200
Annual meeting	\$400
Lunch with LWV	\$80
General meetings	\$100
LWVUS Convention (Note 3)	\$3,000
LWVIN Council/Convention/Workshops (Note 4)	\$200
Member publications (Note 5)	\$1,200
Sponsorships/coalitions	\$1,000
Public relations/advertising (Note 6)	\$1,200
Advocacy	\$100
Fundraising	\$150
Total Expenses	\$12,670

Note 1: Life members pay zero dues, 2nd household member & students pay half dues.

Note 2: Includes events that involve in-and-out money, such as pre-payments for tickets.

Note 3: LWVUS convention is held every other year in even-numbered years.

Note 4: LWVIN Fall Workshops @ approx. \$30/person; LWVIN Convention @ approx. \$120/person.

Note 5: Printing & supply costs for bulletins, postcards, meeting notices, etc.

Note 6: Many projects can be funded from the LWV-Indy Education Fund.

Respectfully submitted on April 20, 2017 by the Budget Committee: Sarah Halter, Chair; Harriet Wilkins, and Betsy Bayne

CABARET CHANTEUSE • NATIONAL DEBUT

GAIL PAYNE

presents

THIS IS U.S.:

We Hold These Times to Be Self-Evident

JULY 7

THE CABARET!
INDIANAPOLIS

JULY 8

Davenport's
CHICAGO

OCT. 20

FEINSTEIN'S
54
BELOW
NYC

Music Direction by Alex Rybeck | Directed by Faith Prince



Photo: Dan Finkoff

GAIL PAYNE

presents

THIS IS U.S.:

We Hold These Times to Be Self-Evident

JULY 7

THE CABARET • INDIANAPOLIS
THECABARET.ORG

In partnership with **LWV** LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

JULY 8

DAVENPORT'S • CHICAGO
DAVENPORTSPIANOBAR.COM

OCT. 20

FEINSTEIN'S 54BELOW • NEW YORK CITY
54BELOW.COM

“At home, up close and personal with any genre.”

NUVO Newsweekly

Gail Payne, an acclaimed cabaret performer from Indianapolis is making her national cabaret debut with

THIS IS U.S.: WE HOLD THESE TUNES TO BE SELF-EVIDENT.

Gail and her team – renowned New York musical director Alex Rybeck and director, Tony Award winner Faith Prince – carefully curate an evening of music and stories that celebrates and explores the complex flavors inherent in American society today. Selections include unexpected ingredients that influenced Gail growing up in rural Illinois, living in urban Indianapolis, and traveling the world, from Guthrie to Gershwin, Berlin to Dixie Chicks, “This Land is Your Land” to “How You Gonna Keep ‘Em Down on the Farm After They’ve Seen Parcc.” Gail Payne offers something for every music lover, garnished with Rybeck’s masterful arrangements for piano, guitar and ukulele.

MORE INFO: GAILPAYNE.COM

League of Women Voters of
Indianapolis
3808 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

Visit us online at www.lwvindy.org or on Facebook!

Welcome New Members!

Dues are \$50 a year for individuals, \$75 for households, and \$25 for students and AmeriCorps members. Make checks payable to the LWV of Indianapolis and send to 3808 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Kind of Member: NEW RENEWING