



Upcoming LWV Events:

Lunch with LWV

May 20th
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Scottish Rite Cathedral

Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 4th
10:00 am to 11:30 am
Indiana History Center

Future Lunch with LWV

June 17th, July 15th, and
August 19th

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Scottish Rite Cathedral

*LWV Indianapolis
Monthly Board Meeting*

First Wednesday of
Every Month, 7 pm.
North United
Methodist Church
3808 N. Meridian Street

(Schedule varies during
summer months. Please
check with a board
member.)

LWV-Indianapolis

Voicemail:
317-767-4187

E-mail:
LWVIndy@sbcglobal.net

Visit us on the web:
www.lwvindy.org

Message from the President

Dear League Members,

This is the last *Bulletin* message I will write as president of the League of Women Voters of Indianapolis. My term ends at the end of June and I am not seeking a second term. I am, however, remaining on the board and will be a part of a new “leadership committee.” This committee will share responsibility for running the League and, pending your approval at our Annual Meeting on June 4, will consist of myself, Carol Fowler (current Vice President), Kendra Clauser (current Secretary), and Amy Olson (current Treasurer). It might take us a little time for us to clearly define what our new roles will be, but the goal is to better distribute the workload so that we can be the most effective and efficient LWV possible.

I would like to thank board of director members Jeanne Luke, Deb Lawrence, and Vada Kim, all of whom are leaving the board. They’ve been great help over the past two (or more!) years. Believe me when I say they have served the League well. But their leaving means new directors are rotating onto the board! Please join me – pending your vote at Annual Meeting, of course – in welcoming new board of directors: Becca Loofbourrow and Anne Nation.

It has been a pleasure serving as president of this organization. I look forward to continuing my LWV service and working with all of you. Thank you for the faith you have shown in me, the words of encouragement over the past two years, and for the opportunity to lead.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Erin Keelley".

The League of Women Voters is a time-tested nonpartisan, nonprofit, volunteer political organization, dedicated to promoting active and informed participation in government—from the school district to the nation, and from voter registration to public service. Although LWV sometimes advocates for or against issues, it never supports or opposes particular candidates.

Upcoming League Events

Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 4

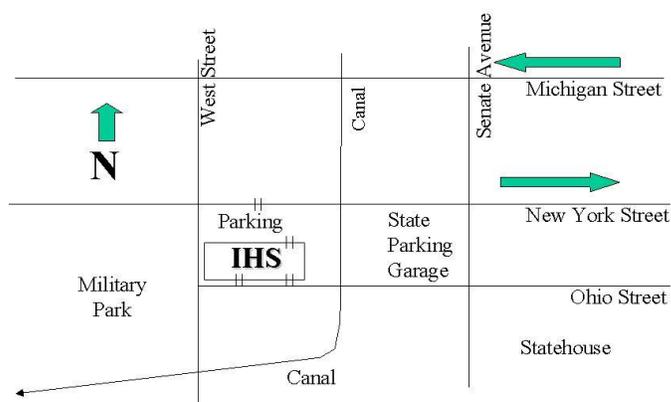
10a.m. to 11:30a.m.

Eugene and Marilyn Glick Indiana History Center

450 W. Ohio Street (Parking accessible off New York and West Streets – will be validated.)

Registration required by May 31 to Karen Kay Leonard or LWVIndy@sbcglobal.net.

A \$10 contribution to the LWV General Fund is requested but not required.



Ready for something different? Rather than our traditional luncheon with guest speaker, we thought we would try something new for this year's annual meeting. All League members are invited to enjoy light breakfast refreshments followed by a business meeting and then a tour of the *Indiana Experience* at the Indiana History Center. An Indiana Historical Society staff member will orient us to the building and its exhibitions before allowing you to explore at your own leisure with fellow League friends. Some of the exhibitions you can visit include *You Are There 1968: Robert F. Kennedy Speaks*, *Cole Porter Room*, and *Destination Indiana*.

The business portion of our meeting will include:

- Election of new board directors and officers
- Budget review approval
- Reports from the President, Treasurer, Voter Service, Fundraising, Membership and others will be presented.
- Discussion on national program and local requests for advocacy support.

The Nominating Committee and Proposed Budget Reports are included at the end of this *Bulletin* for your consideration before the annual meeting.

Lunch with League

Friday, May 20th

12 to 1p.m.

Scottish Rite Cathedral (Truman Room)

Our guest speaker will be **Ehren Bingamam**, Executive Director of the Central Indiana Regional Transit Authority.

Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA) is a quasi-governmental organization that is working to bring more transportation options that will better connect the urban core of Indianapolis with suburban and rural communities in Marion, Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Morgan, Hendricks, Boone, Delaware and Madison counties. Ehren will discuss the responsibilities of CIRTA and Indy Connect.

We have speakers lined up for the summer, be sure to join us:

Friday, June 17th: Kristen Garvey, Executive Director of the Indiana Commission for Women (ICW). She will discuss what ICW is and its current initiatives of prioritizing issues affecting women and developing a statewide action plan to address needs.

Friday, July 15th: A speaker from Girl's Inc and, hopefully, a youth speaker to discuss their programs and how they empower young women.

Friday, August 18th: Matt Tulley, columnist for the Indianapolis Star, discussion of current events.

Friday, September 16th: Judge David Dreyer Marion County Superior Court, Civil 10 and Barbara Crawford. They will discuss the function of the Superior Court and the Protective Order Court as it pertains to domestic violence.

Monthly Board Meetings

First Wednesday of every month

7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

North United Methodist Church (Rm. 004)

All members are welcome to attend board meetings!

Please note that our summer schedule may vary so check with a board member before the meeting date.

Membership News

SAVE THE DATE!

Becca Loofbourrow is taking over some of the membership-related duties Sandra Mowell did for the League before she moved. Here are a couple of the exciting offerings she has planned for Leaguers to enjoy!

- August, Date TBD
Sun King Brewery – Member & Voter Service Recruitment

Come downtown after work this August and join fellow Leaguers for some FRESH * LOCAL * BEER at Sun King Brewery. We'll use this as an opportunity to have some fun, recruit new members, and connect existing members to voter service opportunities this election season. Details forthcoming -- watch your e-mail accounts!

- Friday, September 9
10 to 11a.m.
State House Tour

League members are invited to tour the Indiana State House on Friday, Sept. 9th. The tour starts at 10 a.m. and will last approximately one hour. We will see where the governmental offices are and learn a little about the architecture of the building. RSVP to Becca Loofbourrow by noon on Sept. 2nd at LWVIndy@sbcglobal.net.

Membership Renewal 2011-2012

At our 2009 Annual Meeting, LWV-Indianapolis members voted to change to a single-date membership renewal. That date is Women's Equality Day, 26 August!

The dues amounts have not changed. Please send \$50 for individual membership; \$75 for household membership (more than one member at the same address); \$25 for student membership.

As you may know, after state and national PMP (per-member payments), LWV-Indianapolis will keep only about \$8 of each person's \$50.00 dues – not enough to print and mail newsletters, much less to rent meeting rooms and send delegates to Council or Convention. Please consider including an additional donation with your dues to help cover our activities. We appreciate this support and thank each of the donors.

In Memoriam

Rozann Rothman, an active LWV member here in the 1980s and 1990s, died in early January after a long illness. Rozann served several terms on the local LWV Board of Directors, taught at IUPUI, and worked as a lobbyist for several social service groups.

Marcella Egenes, an active elder member of LWV-Indy in the 1980s and 1990s, died last fall. A former teacher and Women's Army Corps (WAC) member, Marcella earned a social work from Indiana State following the Korean Conflict and worked afterward in the Indianapolis Public Schools. She moved several years ago to Arkansas, to live near a sister. Marcella died in Hot Springs Village on 21 November 2010.

LWV-Indianapolis Updates

Sidewalk Maintenance: What Leaguers Can Do



Earlier in March the Greater Allisonville Community Council invited Department of Public Works (DPW) representatives to speak about roads and sidewalks. They specifically spoke about the repairs that can be made with revenues from the sale of the city's water and wastewater systems to Citizens Energy. My neighborhood sidewalks need attention. Now that the weather is warmer I will take a few walks around the neighborhood to identify the problem areas and report to my civic association and then to DPW. LWV members can survey their own neighborhood and/or report any sidewalk that is crumbling, heaving, or needs handicap ramps. Sidewalks should be four feet wide. Bryan Moll is deputy program manager of DPW and his email address is Bryan.Moll@indy.gov, phone (317) 327-2145, cell (317) 408-2215. Street address is 1200 S. Madison Ave., Ste 200, Indy 46225. The city's Web site for rebuilding infrastructure is www.indy.gov/RebuildingIndy.

- Madelyn Sundquist

LWV Publications: Distribute! Distribute! Distribute!

Need to know how to contact your state senator or representative? How about who your local township trustee or school board member is? Never fear, the *DGO* is here! The League's *Directory of Government Officials* is hot off the presses and ready for distribution. Please pick up a stack at the next LWV function you attend and pass them out to friends, neighbors, and family. Distributing the *DGO* is an easy but important form of League service all of us can do!

The *Unigov Handbook* is also nearing completion. The initial design work has been completed and it is undergoing content revision due some local government reform legislation that is still pending in the General Assembly. We are printing 1,000 copies and your help is needed to distribute them around the city later this summer. The *Unigov Handbook* is the preeminent publication of our League. We have been told by city officials that they use it regularly and last year former Mayor Bill Hudnut contacted the League asking for a copy. Please learn more in the "Volunteer" section of the *Bulletin*.

Indiana Council for Women “Listening Session”

On March 22 the LWV sponsored a “listening session” by the Indiana Council for Women at the College Avenue Branch Library. These sessions will occur statewide and are being conducted to help the Commission prioritize the issues impacting Hoosier women so they can create an action plan.

Around 20 women representing a variety of ethnicities, ages, and sexual orientation joined for an energizing conversation. As a large group, participants were asked to brainstorm the different challenges and barriers women face. Responses ranged from access to childcare to unemployment, pay equity, transportation, work flexibility, and racial and gender discrimination. After a vote, the top three priorities that emerged were: (1) Access to reproductive health care, (2) Domestic Violence, and (3) Access to (early childhood & family) education. Participants were asked to choose the issue that interested them the most and in a small group discuss a series of questions before recommending an action plan. Erin Kelley participated in the small group discussion on access to reproductive health care while Coy Halpern participated in the access to education group.

The reproductive health care group defined “access” by relating it to transportation, number of clinics/doctors in a community, cost, and medically accurate information. To help create a balance between religion and policy, the group thought an honest conversation amongst women’s organizations on how they define “reproductive health care” (which to the small group meant more than abortion) and why the topic matters to women’s economic well being is an important future step.

The group that focused on access to early childhood and family education stressed the importance of using data to talk with legislators and other officials regarding the long term benefits (both economically and socially) of early childhood education. They suggested that the best practices of other states be examined and used in any future decision-making.

Thank you for your ongoing support

Your ongoing support is important to us, and enables us to continue the good work for which the League has been known for 91 years. Remember: you can make one gift or a monthly pledge, and ANY amount is appreciated!

Also, please consider leaving your own legacy to the League with a bequest to the Indianapolis League of Women Voters. Here's some sample language you can use to make an unrestricted gift to the League:

I give, devise, and bequeath to the Indianapolis League of Women Voters, a not-for-profit organization located in Indianapolis, Indiana, \$_____.00 (specific amount) OR _____ percent (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate as an unrestricted gift to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Indianapolis League of Women Voters for the general purposes of the Indianapolis League of Women Voters, located in Indianapolis, Indiana.

If you have already included the League in your estate plans, THANK YOU! We would like to recognize your generosity if you would like to inform us of your plans.

Volunteer Opportunities

Unigov Handbook

The board has identified key stakeholders in the community we would like give *Unigov Handbooks* to. Help is needed in making contact with these organizations and coordinating delivery. Please contact Erin Kelley if you have contacts within these organizations and/or have the ability to deliver copies this June and July.

- City County Council
- Mayor's Office
- High School Media Specialists
- Local Realtors
- Indianapolis Neighborhood Resource Center
- Boner Center
- Lacy Leadership Association
- IndyHub
- Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library
- Local Neighborhood Associations

LWV Transit Liaison

The LWV of Indianapolis is looking for volunteers willing to serve as liaisons to a coalition of transit advocates spearheaded by the Central Indiana Regional Transit Authority (CIRTA, www.cirta.us). More specifically, CIRTA is trying to build a coalition that will support a resolution asking the 2012 Indiana General Assembly to enact legislation that enables local governments to conduct referenda creating revenue dedicated to transit and transportation alternatives.

Our “urban region” and “downtown development” positions endorse the use of public money to support transit initiatives. The grey area is whether we support the use of referenda, either in general or for a specific case like this one. This issue will be brought up at the annual meeting and the executive director of CIRTA, Ehren Bingaman, will be our May 20 Lunch with LWV speaker.

Regardless, the LWV is pro-public transit and we've been offered a seat at the table to learn more. This is a great opportunity for the LWV and I hope one or two of you are interested! Please contact Erin Kelley at LWVIndy@sbcglobal.net to learn more.



Volunteer THANKS!

Unigov Handbook and DGO:

Emily Arent, Kendra Clauser, Carole Gall, Tracy Heaton deMartinez, Erin Kelley, Karen Kay Leonard, Amy Olson, Madelyn Sundquist, and Harriet Wilkins.

Lunch with LWV and AAUW/CWU/LWV Coalition Luncheon:

Gin Harrison

Nominating committee:

Vada Kim, Deb Lawrence, Jeanne Luke, and Nancy Smith

Budget committee:

Erin Kelley, Karen Kay Leonard, Amy Olson, Marietta Pesel, Ada Shaum

Bulletin:

Rhea Cain and Carol Fowler

Near Westside Primary Candidate Forum:

Tracy Heaton deMartinez, Susan Scott and Carol Fowler

For Consideration at 2011 Annual Meeting

Report of the Nominations Committee, Deb Lawrence, Chair

The Nominating Committee proposes the following slate for 2011-2012:

'11-'13 Leadership Committee

Kendra Clauser

Carol Fowler

Erin Kelley

Amy Olsen

'11-'13 Directors:

1) Anne Nation

2) Becca Loofbourrow

3) Virginia Harrison

4) Lenora Maze

5) Ada Shaum

'11 Nomination Committee:

Tracy Heaton deMartinez, Chair

Deb Lawrence

Vada Kim



LWV Indianapolis Membership Form—Have you Renewed?

Joining the League of Women Voters

Yes, I would like to become a member of the League of Women Voters for an annual fee of \$50.00.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

My annual dues of \$50.00 are enclosed.

I am a new member. Yes _____ No _____ I am a renewing member. Yes _____ No _____

(All members receive the *Bulletin* several times a year as well as other League literature and information.)

Scholarships/reduced dues are available for student memberships please contact the League.

Enclosed is an additional contribution of \$ _____ to help the League of Women Voters make a positive impact on voting, citizenship and democracy. Enclosed is an additional contribution of \$ _____ to help provide student member scholarships.

Date: _____

Below is the name and address/phone number of a prospective League member.

I expect to be an active member _____, an occasional participant _____ or a supporter _____.

I would like to be contacted to assist with (*circle all preferences*):

Education

Health & Welfare

Natural Resources

Public Transit

Voter Service

Women's Issues

Local Government Reform

Other/Special

From:

League of Women Voters of Indianapolis

c/o North United Methodist Church

3808 N. Meridian Street

Indianapolis, IN 46208-4909

Forwarding and Address Correction

Requested

TO: