



The Bulletin

Where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.

August 2017

Dates to Remember

- * Board Meeting
NUMC, Aug 10,
6 pm
- * Membership Ori-
entation, Aug 13,
1:30 to 3:30 pm
- * Voter Registration
Event, Central Li-
brary, Aug 16,
10:30 a.m. to Noon
- * Lunch with LWV,
Scottish Rite, Aug
18, Noon.

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It's time to renew your membership!

Between back to school, summer vacations, work and volunteer opportunities—2017 has started to fly by us!

*So I wanted to take a moment to remind you that Membership Payments are due on or before 8-26-17. We have a great amount of work to do in the later half of this year, and we cannot do it without your support. I also hope you are able to attend our **August 13th Membership Orientation/Refresher**—there will be lots of fantastic take aways from this informative (and quick!) meeting. We are thankful for IMCPL's Wayne Branch for hosting this event.*

We also have quite a few volunteer opportunities in the next few months that we really could use help with! Look inside this Bulletin for more information.

Yours in League,

Rhea

Do I need to renew my membership?

A safe bet is "YES", but if you joined LWV Indy *after* January 31st, 2017? Then the answer is actually NO—you are good until August of 2018!

Not sure of your membership status? Shoot us an e-mail at membership@lwvindy.org and we will be more than happy to help you out!

Checks not your thing? No worries! Visit www.lwvindy.org and renew your membership online!

Freedom School Update

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 Children who were at first shy and withdrawn during morning Harambee' were fully engaged by the end of the 5 weeks (Harambee' is right after breakfast and is a lively, informal time of singing, dancing,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



Interested in Board Service? We would LOVE to hear from you! E-mail us at member-ship@lwvindy.org

Volunteer Opportunities for LWV Members!

LWV Indy has been asked to register new U.S. Citizens at Central Library at their remaining 2017 monthly Naturalization Ceremony. We will need volunteers for the following dates:

August 16
September 20
October 25
November 15
December 13

These ceremonies will take about an hour and will start at 10:30 promptly. The volunteer opportunity should take a total of 2 hours at most on the given dates.

Rusty on how voter registration works? Please make sure to attend our refresher for our members on August 13th!

ACLU Constitution Day

Katie Blair of ACLU Indiana has asked for representatives of LWV Indy to help out on Friday September 15th . We will be representing LWV Indy (of course) and helping to distribute pocket Constitutions over the lunch hour. The location is yet to be determined, but it would be great to line up a few volunteers now!

Want to help out at any of these events?

Please e-mail membership@lwvindy.org



Volunteer THANKS!

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

Mary Boggs

Kim Irwin

Janet Rash

Betsy Bayne

Sarah Halter

Debbie Asberry

Sarah Halter



August 18th Lunch with LWV: John Ruckelshaus & Carey Hamilton

Join us at the Scottish Rite Cathedral's Truman room at noon on August 18th for a conversation on working across the aisle with Senator Ruckelshaus and Representative Carey Hamilton.

John Ruckelshaus was first elected to the Washington Township Marion County Advisory Board in 1986. He then ran and was elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1990 and served on the Labor, Public Health and Insurance Committees. During the administration of Gov. Mitch Daniels, John was the Deputy Commissioner for the Department of Workforce Development.

John is the former co-owner of a family business in Indianapolis – the Carter-Lee Lumber Company. He served the business community there for over 18 years. John also served for over 12 years on the Marion County Board of Contractors, including a stint as chairman.

John is happily married to Mary Ruckelshaus, a long-serving real estate agent for FC Tucker. John and Mary are the proud parents of three children: Drew, an athletic trainer at Miami (Ohio) University, Maggie, who graduates from Michigan State Law School in May, and Jay, a senior at Duke University and Rhodes Scholar who will be studying at Oxford University in England beginning this fall.

Frequently asked, John is the nephew of William D. Ruckelshaus, former EPA and FBI Administrator in the Nixon and Reagan Administrations. John's father Jack was the chief attorney for the Fraternal Order of Police and the state firefighter's alliance as well as a two-term state senator.

State Representative Carey Hamilton (D-Indianapolis) was elected on November 8, 2016, to represent Indiana House District 87.

Carey is a nonprofit executive and has worked in the environmental field for more than 20 years. During that time she has managed various policy development initiatives and public outreach programs.

Carey has been the Executive Director of the Indiana Recycling Coalition (IRC) since September 2008. Under Carey's leadership, the IRC has won two national awards recognizing it as a leader among state recycling organizations.

In addition, Carey co-lead environmental programs for the 2012 Indianapolis Super Bowl Host Committee, she is a board member of both Keep America Beautiful and the National Recycling Coalition, a member of the IUPUI Sustainability Advisory Council, a 2011 graduate of the Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Program, a 2013 graduate of the Institute for Conservation Leadership Executive Director Leadership Program and was named one of Forty Under 40 up-and-coming leaders in 2010 by the *Indianapolis Business Journal*.

Carey is a graduate of Pike High School in Indianapolis and has a bachelor's degree from Indiana University-Bloomington. She is married to Derek Hamilton and has two children in middle school.



Follow LWV Indy on Facebook!

We are hoping to engage more of our members on Facebook. Please take a moment to Like and Follow us online. We look forward to hearing from you! This is a great tool to share news and upcoming events with potential League members.

News from National: E The People

The League of Women Voters announced the organization has accepted as a gift the technology and assets of e.thePeople, the nation's leading provider of interactive voter guide software. The gift further solidifies the League as the most trusted source for election information.

“Since 2010 the League has used technology provided by e.thePeople to create ballot information on VOTE411.org, which in 2016 helped nearly 4.5 million people,” said Chris Carson, League of Women Voters Education Fund chair. “Direct management of the technology will allow us to enhance the product for the League, as well as the many current and future partners of e.thePeople.”

Since 2004, more than 17 million people have used digital voter guides powered by e.thePeople.

“The League of Women Voters has been a trusted partner and we are pleased to transition this technology into the very capable hands of these leaders of democracy,” said Michael Weiksner, Chairman and trustee of the nonprofit e.thePeople. “The

combination of our leading technology and the League’s leading brand and organization will significantly enhance the service delivered to our partners and the information delivered to voters. We determined that this combination best served our mission to improve civic participation by making it easier for everyone to be a great citizen.”

To date, hundreds of news organizations and civic groups have used e.thePeople’s software to provide in-depth online voter guides for local, state and national elections.

“Providing voter guides is an important part of our democracy and something the League has done for nearly a century,” said Carson. “Every year is an election year and the League is prepared to ensure voters have access to the most useful information to make informed decisions at the ballot box.”

The League of Women Voters will continue to support all existing clients of e.thePeople and maintain the software. The League looks forward to enhancing the

product and expanding its reach and impact for providing voter guides across the country.



DEMOCRACY IS NOT
A SPECTATOR SPORT.



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



Membership Renewal Time!

Renew by 8-26-17!

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