

May 2008

All League Members Invited to Annual Meeting

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus will hold its 2008 Annual Meeting on Monday, June 2, at 6:00 PM at the Columbus Board of Realtors (2700 Airport Drive, 43219).

The event includes a light supper, business meeting and a presentation about Mayor Michael B. Coleman's plan for a \$103 million streetcar project. Coleman's proposed transportation system would span 2.8 miles on High Street.

The registration fee is \$5 to cover the meal cost. Please RSVP by May 26 to Amy Pulles at 614-837-1089 or lwvcols@iwaynet.net. You may pay the registration fee at the meeting, but you must RSVP to the League office in advance. *Read more about the Annual Meeting inside.*

"Do Your Own Units" Set for May

Units are a great way to spark an interest in the League. This month, members planned their own speakers and topics for discussion. So, bring a fellow Leaguer or a friend who may need "sparking."

Groovy Evening & Early Morning

by Jean Byrd

The Groovy Hip Evening Unit will meet on May 27 at Caribou Coffee (1425 Grandview Avenue). The Evening Unit will discuss housing and lending with Delaware member Karen Rainey. Karen is a lobbyist in this area for the state League. The Unit will start at 7:00 PM. And don't forget coffee money. Dark groovy hip shades are optional.

The Morning Unit will meet for coffee and tea at Wesley Glen (5155 N. High Street, 43214) at 9:00 AM on May 15. The serious discussion begins at 9:30 AM. The topic and speaker will be announced soon.

Global Warming at Dinner

by David McCoy

Global warming? Some say "For sure!" while others say "Hogwash!" Our own LWVMC member, Anne Nelson, will present a program about Global Warming at the May 28 Dinner Unit.

Anne has an MS in education, retired from the corporate world at Procter & Gamble, and is an adjunct at Ashland University teaching professional development workshops in Health Education. She is also project manager for the League of Women Voters of Ohio imPACT project holding town hall meetings across Ohio to discuss political reform. Anne lived in El Salvador as a Peace Corps volunteer in the 1960s. She has been a devoted guardian of Mother Earth, advocates for being gentle inhabitants of our planet, and has started neighborhood recycling programs. Anne is one of 1,000 who have been trained here in the United States to give the Climate Project presentation.

All are welcome (visitors and non-League members especially) to this exciting and informative Dinner Unit meeting at Wing's Restaurant (2801 E. Main Street, near the border of Bexley and Whitehall). Those who want food should arrive around 5:30-5:45 PM and order from the menu. Others who want to come for the program only arrive later. Conversation about League activities focuses around 6:30 PM or so, and the program begins about 6:45 or 7:00 PM. The Unit concludes at 8:00 PM.

Please let me (David McCoy) know if you plan to attend: davidomccoy@yahoo.com or 614-205-5457, so that space can be planned appropriately.



FROM THE PRESIDENT...

by Kitty Burcsu

As the end of the League year approaches, we find our MC League busier than ever! We begin the month with our annual Democracy in Action Award scheduled for May 8 at the Statehouse Atrium. This year we recognize and celebrate three outstanding League members: **Judy Brachman, Lou Briggs** and **Peg Rosenfield**. What a special evening for our awardees and for our League!



“Do Your Own Units” conclude the month with our three units offering programs planned by the unit members. Our Annual Meeting on June 2 offers an evening of fellowship and member input into the operation of your League with approval of next year’s budget and election of new officers and trustees. After the Annual Meeting, League officially goes “on vacation” with formal programs and events. However, your new Board will be hard at work planning for next year!

Speaking of next year, I am pleased to announce that LWVMC has been selected by LWVUS to host a delegation of visitors from the Ukraine. A six-member delegation will visit Columbus from October 17-24, 2008. The theme of the program is civil rule of law, meaning that our activities and events will offer insights into how the US judicial system operates and the role that the rule of law plays in democracy. Activities will explore such topics as judicial independence, the jury-trial process, juvenile justice practices and judicial elections. A committee will form soon to begin planning the hosting program. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact the League office. League members will also be needed to host the visitors in their homes, provide transportation, and participate in a variety of educational, social and cultural events. What a wonderful opportunity for our League and for our members!

Summer vacation...not really! Instead... opportunities to celebrate our members and our League and to begin planning for exciting new activities! Hope League will be on your summer agenda!

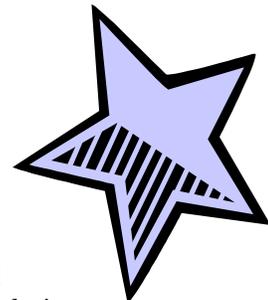


Final Reminder

Democracy in Action Just Around the Corner

by Sara Meyers

We hope all LWVMC members are planning to attend DIA on Thursday, May 8, as we honor three of our own dedicated members – **Judy Brachman, Lou Briggs, and Peg Rosenfield**. As a highlight to this year’s event, **Joan Lawrence** will moderate the program and Justice **Thomas Moyer, Mary Lazarus**, and **Herb Asher, PhD**, will introduce the honorees and present their awards.



Please join us in our celebration of the exemplary civic participation and leadership which **Judy, Lou, and Peg** so admirably represent! Exemplifying active citizenship in conjunction with their commitment to the League, **Judy, Lou, and Peg** merit our heartfelt congratulations. Come to share in this exciting occasion.

For last minute information or reservations, call me at 614-775-9696, or **Amy Pulles** at the League office at 614-837-1089.

We hope to see you at the event, May 8, 5:00-7:00 pm, at the Ohio Statehouse Atrium.

Surf the Web

- LWVMC**
www.lwvc.org
- LWVO**
www.lwvo.org
- LWVUS**
www.lwv.org



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Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate:

President - **Janyce Katz**

VP Advocacy - **Scott Britton**

VP Membership - **Lea Madry**

Trustee - **Diane Gosser**

Trustee - **Dave Patton**

Trustee - **Laura Bidwa**

Trustee - **Lucy Buzzee**

Trustee - **Dorothy Whitcomb**

Trustee - **Bob Brown**

Trustee - **Rose Luttinger** - EF Treasurer

Current Board members, terms expiring in 2009

VP Voter Service - **Barbie Crabill**

Secretary - **Ann Henkener**

Treasurer - **Jean Byrd**

Trustee - **Joy Rose**

Trustee - **Sara Meyers**

In addition, the Committee nominates the following for the 2008-2009 Nominating Committee:

Kitty Burcsu, Chair

Gloria Davis

Esther Connors

Brent Taggart Named Member of the Year

The League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus is pleased to announce the 2008 Member of the Year is **Brent Taggart**. The award will be presented at the LWVMC Annual Meeting, June 2.

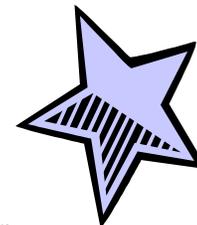
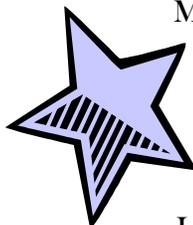
Brent has been a member of the League since 1989. In recent years, his devotion to the League has been evident in his participation at the annual Holiday Party and Democracy in Action. Every December, you will find Brent serving as auctioneer at the Holiday Party, where he always entertains us with his good humor. For the past several years, Brent has played a vital role in Democracy in Action by creating the slide show presentation of the honoree, which opens the DIA program. Brent has also served on the Democracy in Action committee.

Brent is active during election season. In 2006 he volunteered as a driver for a wheelchair van that transported voters with disabilities to the polls. Last year, he served as Presiding Judge for Upper Arlington precinct 4C, and he was the Lead Presiding Judge for precinct 4C and 5A in the 2008 primary election.

Brent has been a partner with Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP since January 1999. He received an MA in philosophy and his JD, *cum laude*, from the University of Michigan. He also received an AB, *magna cum laude*, in philosophy with distinction in all subjects from Cornell University.

Brent resides in Upper Arlington with his wife and fellow League member, Beth, and his beautiful daughter, Abby.

Congratulations to Brent Taggart, the League's 2008 Member of the Year.



League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus

ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, June 2, 6:00 PM

Columbus Board of Realtors
2700 Airport Drive, Columbus 43219

RSVP by May 26

614-837-1089 or lwwcols@iwaynet.net

Registration fee \$5

From the east: Take 1-670 westbound and exit at Cassady Avenue. (Do the same from Steltzer Road and International Gateway.) Follow the exit straight into the Port Columbus Executive Park. You are on Airport Drive. After the road veers left, CBR is on your right. **From the west:** (from N. Fourth Street, 1-71 or 315) Take 1-670 eastbound. Exit at Johnstown Road. (From the highway, you can see CBR and the Marriott on your left.) At the stop sign, turn right onto Johnstown Road. At the next light, turn right onto Cassady Avenue. At the first light (past the Marriott), turn left onto Airport Drive into the Port Columbus Executive Park.

2008 ANNUAL MEETING / Monday, June 2

	Line Item	To Date	Budgeted 2007-2008	2008-2009 Budget Proposed	
	INCOME				
3	Membership Dues	\$10,060.00	\$13,000.00	\$13,500.00	Calculated with 225 regular members
4	Member Contributions (Misc)	\$2,195.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
5	Non-member Contributions	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
6	Democracy In Action	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00	
7	Fundraising Activities	\$2,744.50	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	
8	Meetings/Misc	\$619.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,000.00	
9	Ed Fund Reimbursement	\$13,068.14	\$17,350.00	\$18,650.00	Increase in voter education
10	Transfer in From Savings	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$11,535.00	Use of money to encourage League activity
	Total Income	\$32,941.64	\$59,350.00	\$68,185.00	
	EXPENSES				
11	Payroll *	\$12,937.89	\$19,005.00	\$24,000.00	Now reflects gross salary that includes withholding taxes.
12	Payroll Taxes **	\$4,296.54	\$6,720.00	\$2,360.00	Now reflects only taxes beyond withholdings**
13	Staff Professional Development	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	
14	Staff Mileage	\$352.60	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	
15	Office and D&O Insurance	\$1,154.00	\$750.00	\$1,150.00	Actual insurance costs. Ed fund reimburses half.
16	Office Phone / DSL Internet	\$1,429.41	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00	
17	Office Supplies, Postage	\$2,228.31	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
18	Technology Costs Website Costs	\$99.95	\$600.00	\$6,000.00	This line now includes two line items and increase includes
	Other Technology	\$503.44	\$300.00		the purchase of a new computer for the office and a computer projector
19	Board's Expenses	\$267.19	\$750.00	\$750.00	
20	President's Expenses	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
21	Council and Conventions LWVUS	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	This line includes two line items.
	LWVO	\$0.00	\$1,000.00		
22	National PMP	\$2,391.10	\$2,700.00	\$2,690.00	National PMP is \$26.80 with Ed Fund paying 50%.
23	State PMP	\$3,644.58	\$3,185.00	\$3,535.00	State PMP is \$23.50 with Ed Fund paying 25%.
24	Voter	\$615.63	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
25	Democracy In Action	\$14.96	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	
26	Other Fundraising Events	\$231.92	\$300.00	\$300.00	
27	Publicity/Public Image/ID Promo	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	
28	Membership Committee	\$55.00	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	To encourage membership
29	Program Planning	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	
30	Action / Advocacy	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	
31	Voter Service	\$164.31	\$200.00	\$500.00	To encourage Voter Service projects that are Non-Ed Fund activities.
32	Units/ Meetings	\$1,244.05	\$1,800.00	\$2,500.00	To encourage increased activity in units and general meetings
33	Miscellaneous/Bank Fees	\$5.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	
34	Transfer to Reserves	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	
35	Capital Equip Purchase	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	
	Total Expenses	\$31,655.83	\$59,710.00	\$68,185.00	
	**Payroll Taxes FUTA Federal Unemployment; Job and Family Services; Workers' Comp; Social Security; Medicare				

Budget Committee Report

by Jean Byrd

The Budget Committee convened March 2 and March 6, and developed the proposed budget printed in this newsletter. The Budget Committee also makes the following restructuring suggestions:

- Combine the budget lines for *LWVUS Council and Conventions* and *LWVO Council and Conventions* into one line - *Council and Convention*.
- Combine the budget lines for *Website Costs* and *Other Technology Costs* into one line - *Technology*
- Change the line *Finance/Fundraising (DIA)* to read *Democracy In Action*.

The Budget Committee makes the following monetary changes:

- In the 2007-2008 budget *Line 11 Payroll* reflected **net** salary. For the 2008-2009 budget *Line 11 Payroll* will reflect **gross** salary which now includes withholding taxes.
- In the 2007-2008 budget *Line 12 Payroll Taxes* reflected all payroll taxes including withholding taxes. For the 2008-2009 Budget *Line 12 Payroll Taxes* now only includes additional taxes paid as an employer.
- *Line 15 Office and D&O Insurance* has been changed to include actual insurance cost.
- The Budget Committee increased *Line 18 Technology Costs* to encourage technology uses for all members. The League will be redesigning the webpage to make it more accessible and buying a new computer for the office and a computer projector for use at meetings and events.
- *Line 22 National PMP* reflects the National PMP of \$26.80 for 200.5 members and *Line 23 State PMP* reflect State PMP of \$23.50 for 200.5 members.
- *Line 28 Membership Committee, Line 31 Voter Service, Line 32 Units/Meetings* have been increased to encourage activity.

Treasurer **Jean Byrd** thanks each of the committee members for the time and the thought put into this budget process: **Nancy Brown, David McCoy, Lee Morgan, Scott Britton, Kitty Burcsu, Mary Kaul, and Stuart Wright.**

LWVUS Immigration Position

The League of Women Voters believes that immigration policies should promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; and be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises. Provision should also be made for qualified persons to enter the US on student visas. All persons should receive fair treatment under the law.

The League supports federal immigration law that provides an efficient, expeditious system (with minimal or no backlogs) for legal entry of immigrants into the US.

To complement these goals the League supports federal policies to improve economies, education, job opportunities, and living conditions in nations with large emigrating populations.

In transition to a reformed system, the League supports provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status

The League supports federal payments to impacted communities to address the financial costs borne by states and local governments with large immigrant populations.

Criteria for Legal Admission to the US

The League supports the following criteria for legal admission of persons into the United States: Family reunification of spouses or minor children with authorized immigrants or citizens; Flight from persecution or response to humanitarian crises in home countries; Economic, business and employment needs in the US; Education and training needs of the US; Educational program opportunities; and Lack of a history of serious criminal activity.

Administration and Enforcement

The League supports due process for all persons, including the right to a fair hearing, right to counsel, right of appeal and right to humane treatment. The League supports: Improved technology to facilitate employer verification of employee status; Verification documents, such as status cards and work permits, with secure identifiers; Significant fines and penalties for employers who hire unauthorized workers; Improved technology for sharing information among federal agencies; More effective tracking of individuals who enter the United States; and Increased personnel at borders.

The League also supports programs allowing foreign workers to enter and leave the US to meet seasonal or sporadic labor needs.

Unauthorized Immigrants Already in the US

In achieving overall policy goals, the League supports a system for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status, including citizenship, by paying taxes, learning English, studying civics and meeting other relevant criteria. While policy reforms, including a path to legal status, remain unachieved, the League does not support deporting unauthorized immigrants who have no history of criminal activity.

Mark Your Calendar...

- May 4** **LWVMC Voter Service Committee Meeting**
- May 8** **LWVMC Democracy in Action Ceremony & Reception, 5:00-7:00 PM, Ohio Statehouse Atrium**
- May 13** **LWVO Lobby Lunch, All invited, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM, Columbus Metropolitan Library-Main Branch (96 S. Grant Street), 2nd and 4th Tuesdays**
- May 15** **LWVMC Morning Unit**
- May 27** **LWVMC Evening Unit**
- May 28** **LWVMC Dinner Unit**
- June 2** **LWVMC Annual Meeting, 6:00 PM, RSVP to the LWVMC Office by May 26**
- June 13-17** **LWVUS 48th National Convention, Hilton Portland & Executive Tower, Portland, Oregon**



*The League of Women Voters
is where hands-on work to safeguard democracy
leads to civic improvement.*

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