



The League of Women Voters – Cuyahoga Area
Invites You To the 5th Season of **FIRST THURSDAY FORUMS**

**Another Era of Water Fights:
The Battle for Great Lakes Water**

The first in a new dialogue series titled:
**The Environment II – A Green
Future for Our Fragile Earth**

Peter Annin

Author, The Great Lakes Water Wars

**Thursday
September 13, 2007
7 pm to 9 pm**

West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church

20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River
Hilliard Road Exit off I-90, 3 Blocks West

Registration/Dessert \$5 per person by 9/10
Information: LWV Cuyahoga Area Office:
216-781-0555 or www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org



Check to LWV-Cuyahoga Area Education Fund/50 Public Square #938, Cleveland OH 44113.
Funded by The George Gund Foundation and The League of Women Voters-Cuyahoga Area
Education Fund in partnership with EcoCity Cleveland.

LWV Consensus Study — Immigration Policy

Immigration Study materials are
available on the LWVUS website:
www.lwvus.org.

Members needing hard copy of the
background papers should send a check
for \$5.00 to:

LWV Cuyahoga Area
50 Public Square, Room #938
Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Consensus responses are due in early
January 2008. Members interested in
joining the **Immigration Study Planning**

Committee, please call Mary Warren:
216-221-2975. All are welcome!

We will be having meetings both on the
west and on the east sides for
discussion and consensus taking.

West side: Monday, November 5 at the
Rocky River Public Library at
1600 Hampton Rd. from 7-9 pm.

East side: Thursday, November 15 at
Maryann Barnes', 2611 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Hts. from 7-9 pm.

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**Membership
Renewals
will be due soon.
Watch your mail
for your
renewal notice!**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

In The Nature of Mass Poverty, (John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard University Press, 1979), Professor Galbraith reminds us that no one is poor by choice and that the poor accommodate or migrate. He observes, "Were all the illegals in the United States suddenly to return home, the effect on the American economy would be little less than disastrous. A large amount of useful, if often tedious, work in New York and other northern cities would go unperformed. Fruits and vegetables in Florida, Texas, and California would go unharvested. Food prices would rise spectacularly." I reread this little book every few years to clear out the cobwebs and reorder my thinking about the comfortable life I lead. I cannot recommend it too highly.

My father grew hops, potatoes and sugar beets in Idaho in the 1940s. In those days, migratory families traveled around the United States in caravans of old vehicles just like in The Grapes of Wrath, picking, digging, hoeing, and doing whatever needed to be done. They squatted in labor camps and the children never went to school on Friday because that was the day their mothers washed their clothes.

The children of those families moved on to jobs in factories, building, processing, manufacturing. They settled down in cities and bought new cars. Today, the itinerant American farm family is little more than a memory. They have been replaced by illegal immigrants.

There are real and spurious arguments, rationalizations, thoughtful commentary--both economic and political--and plain old American "gut feelings" being discussed around dinner tables, on Sunday morning TV shows and in the halls of Congress.

What is right? What is fair? What is needed? Who is needed? Who is welcome and who is not?

We are a nation of immigrants passing judgment on a new generation of people dreaming the American Dream.

If you have not already done so, I hope you will arm yourself with study materials from the LWVUS website and become one of the Informed. Then, attend a consensus meeting and add your voice so that The League of Women Voters can speak in the immigration debate with One Voice.

Lolly

Useful Websites

LWV US	http://www.lwv.org/
LWV Ohio	http://www.lwvohio.org/
LWV CA	http://www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org
Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition	http://www.clevelandvotes.org/
Cuyahoga County Board of Elections	http://www.boe.cuyahogacounty.us/
EcoCity Cleveland	http://ecocitycleveland.org/

Celebrate U.S. Constitution Day

Hear Ye! Hear Ye! The League of Women Voters invites you to celebrate the 320th birthday of the U.S. Constitution in Tower City, 50 Public Square, at noon on Monday, September 17, 2007.

League members will read aloud America's principles of government. Spectators strolling the arcade will be invited to sign a copy of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, register to vote and celebrate their patriotism.

League patriots are needed to read, register and revel. Contact Becky Thomas, VP Voter Service, robrebthomas@sbcglobal.net

Mark you calendars now and plan to come.

Announcing the start of a League Political Reading Group (or two)

There have been a plethora of political books lately! You may have been planning to read one but can't find the time.

Would having someone to talk to energize you? Would a League book group interest you? How about Al Gore's latest, The Assault on Reason, or George Lakoff's Thinking Points? What is on your "waiting list?" belonging to a book group be of interest?

If this interests you, call Wendy at 216-295-1360, or send an e-mail to wdeuring@yahoo.com.

Congratulations to Roslyn Talerico

LWV Cuyahoga Area VP Roslyn Talerico has been honored with the Ben Shouse Friend of the ULA [United Labor Agency] Award. The award statement recognizes specifically "her help in coordinating the registration of at least 15,000 voters and advancing the Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition's election reform efforts in the Ohio General Assembly and Cuyahoga County. Roslyn is a Founding Member of the Coalition."

A former president of the LWV Cleveland and of the Inter-League Organization (ILO), Roslyn is passionate champion of fair and open elections, and also of Juvenile Justice. Until this year she chaired the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court's Citizens Advisory Board and is currently the chair of the Juvenile Justice Committee of the League of Women Voters of Ohio.



**Peter Annin, author of Great Lakes Water Wars kicks-off the
2007-2008 FIRST THURSDAY FORUM SERIES
*The Environment II – A Green Future for our Fragile Earth***

Author, Peter Annin will present the kick-off of the fifth season of the LWV-Cuyahoga Area Education Fund's popular dialogue series First Thursday Forums on Thursday September 13th at 7:00 p.m. at West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River, Ohio.

For over a decade Mr. Annin reported on a wide variety of issues for *Newsweek*. His articles covered such diverse topics as domestic terrorism, droughts in the Southwest, hurricanes, wind power on the Great Plains and recovery efforts in the Great Lakes. Since January, 2000 he has been an Associate Director of the Institutes of Journalism and Natural Resources, a non-profit, non-partisan organization that provides educational fellowships for mid-career environmental journalists.

As articles appear in the *Plain Dealer* citing the lower water levels in the Great Lakes and the warming

of the water, Mr. Annin's book The Great Lakes Water Wars addresses the weaknesses of the current Great lakes water-management system and the growing demand to implement new policies designed to protect these precious water resources.

Will the legislatures of the eight United States and the two Canadian Provinces surrounding this natural resource ratify the Great Lakes–St Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact?

Funding for the First Thursday Forum series is provided by the George Gund Foundation and the LWV–Cuyahoga Area Education Fund, Inc.

Reservations for this important forum are \$5.00 per person. Make your check out to LWV-CA Education Fund and send it to LWV-CA, 55 Public Square #938, Cleveland, Ohio 44113

Copies of Mr. Annin's book will be available for purchase and autograph for \$26.00 at the forum.

Visit to the Cuyahoga County Youth Development Center *by Rosalyn Talerico and Mary Rack*

Members of the League of Women Voters Juvenile Justice Committee joined the Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court Citizens Advisory Board for a visit to the Youth Development Center June 25. The Center is located on 350 acres in Hudson. The open, rural setting provides a therapeutic environment for youth from the city and the suburbs. Although most youth are placed at the facility by the Juvenile Court, there were 20 Juvenile Center detainees awaiting adjudication at the time of the League members' visit, further evidence of serious overcrowding at the Juvenile Detention Center.

Dr. Tom Anuszkiewicz (aka Dr. A to Z) explained that the treatment philosophy is based on a cognitive-behavioral approach using an interactive journaling curriculum. The goal is to "develop a value system through an integrated continuum of services which encourages a restorative approach in the development of life skills that will prevent re-entry into the criminal justice system."

Superintendent Delgado reiterated the 100-year history of the facility and its many incarnations. He explained that he is the legal guardian of the children while they reside at YDC and described the current population. The youth are not mentally ill, but have behavioral problems. They have poor physical and very poor dental health. A dentist is available one day a week, who concentrates on relieving pain and

infection. There are a 24/7 doctor and nurse assisted by three full-time and two part-time nurses. Girls who are or become pregnant on home visits are immediately placed elsewhere. All leave in much better health. The cost of health care is second only to staff costs.

Visitors had the opportunity to meet and speak with some of the youth. Their offenses included gang-related activities, drugs, truancy, unruly behavior, and domestic violence in their homes, breaking and entering, carrying concealed weapons and auto theft.

The education program, run by the Cleveland Public Schools, operates for only 9 months. There is insufficient funding to provide summer school. Presently 250 residents of Hudson volunteer at the facility.

Apparently, The Youth Development Center is a program that works. Recidivism is low, but no scientific study has been done to determine its actual effectiveness. It is also a program facing an unsure future. The County Commissioners plan to close the facility and sell the Hudson property. Juvenile justice advocates are concerned about reducing the options available to Juvenile Court judges. Where will they send these young people and what rehabilitative services will be provided for them?

The full report of the visit is posted on the website: www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org.

Global Warming Brought Into Focus

by Carol Gibson

An animated discussion on global warming followed Dr. Eric Schreiber's arresting computer slide presentation on the subject at *The Nature Center at Shaker Lakes* on June 19th.

Inspired by Al Gore's film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, Dr. Schreiber, a radiologist at the Cleveland Clinic, attended one of Gore's speaker training sessions in Nashville, Tennessee. He is now eager to make use of his new expertise by speaking to schools, churches and civic organizations. (He can be reached at schreib@olympus.net to schedule a date to speak.)

Dr. Schreiber cited as the biggest hindrance to solving the problem of global warming the lack of political will to make the dramatic changes in our institutions and personal lives necessary to sufficiently reduce carbon dioxide emissions. He cited three major factors influencing global warming: population growth, growth of technology, and the way we think about things. The good news is that awareness, concern, and actions are all growing. Attendees received a list of actions needed to help solve the climate crisis. When asked what an individual should do first, Schreiber's top suggestion was to replace light bulbs with energy efficient bulbs now on the market. His complete list of suggestions for individual and societal actions can be found at www.theclimateproject.org.

Some other highlights of the evening:

- Dr. Lonnie Thompson led a scientific team studying global warming in Antarctica. By drilling ice cores two-miles long--taking us back 650,000 years—the team was able to track through the centuries the acceleration of carbon particles present in the ice. In the last 100 years, the presence of particles has jumped from 300 to 380 parts per million; by 2050 carbon particles will be present at 650 parts per million unless strong global-wide actions are taken.
- The resulting ice-melt due to increasing temperatures will affect ocean levels, salinity, fish stocks, coral reefs, ocean currents, weather conditions, species extinction, and much more. In brief, we will have a world that has changed far too quickly for easy adaptation of creatures and plants in our current world.
- Dr. Schreiber said that out of a complete list of 928 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals, there were no disagreements (zero) on the causes of carbon dioxide spikes and their connection to global warming.

The Shaker Heights League hosted this event, which was co-sponsored by the Cleveland Area and

A FAMILY COURT: Would it work for Cuyahoga County?

What works and what doesn't work? Susan Jankite will describe how several courts overlap in the matters they address and why consumers may have to visit more than one court and come before more than one judge to have their issues resolved. The situation can be confusing, time-consuming and expensive and may not result in the best outcomes for the family and child.

Judge David Basinski, Lorain County Family Court, will describe his work as co-chair of the Ohio Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Children, Families, and

the Courts and the transition to a family court in Lorain County.

The Administrative Judges of the Cuyahoga County Domestic Relations, Juvenile, and Probate Courts, Judge Flanagan, Judge Russo, and Judge Donnelly, will discuss how their courts operate and provide their recommendations.

Thursday, September 27, 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM, at the Downtown YMCA, Butler Hall., 2200 Prospect Avenue. Park in the YMCA lot off Prospect Avenue. Refreshments will be served.

LWV-CA MEMBERSHIP FORM

Not a League member? Here's your chance to join other citizens in encouraging active participation in government, better informed voters and responsible political campaigns. Membership is open to all citizens 18 years of age or older.

_____ \$58.00 for Annual Individual Membership _____ \$87.00 for Annual Household Membership (two persons)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone (home) _____ (work) _____ E-mail _____

I would like to affiliate with the following Local Chapter(s) _____

Check here if you would prefer being considered a member at large _____

Clip this form and mail it along with your check to LWVCA, 50 Public Square #938, Cleveland OH 44113.

WELCOME to New and Returning Members

Charlene Baker	Judith Hall
Denice Baldanza	Kate Howley
Christine Baumhauer	Nina Llish
Robert Brooks	Joann Mraz
Donna Calanog	Janice Murch
Margaret Cannon	Marjie Persons
Elizabeth Daunton	Mary Rack
Rachael DeGolia	Betsy Shaughnessy
Theresa Frederika	Mike Sherer
Mary Anne Garvey	Alice Sherman
Lita Gonzalez	Joyce & Bob Strommen
Susan Gray	Nan and Paul Volpe
Virginia Estop	Brook Whitney
Kate Foley	Rebecca Whitney
Brian Hagan	

CALLING ALL CHAPTER CHAIRS AND VOTER SERVICE LEADERS!

Join us at the Independence Library!
Thursday, September 6th from 5:30-7:30
Light supper provided

Before the November elections we need to brush up on our techniques. We are offering moderator training for local Voter Service forums, and assistance on addressing ballot issues when we are asked to speak at local organizations.

To address the changes that are taking place in voter service and to stay active with our mission, the Voter Service committee wants to increase outreach to the public by sending speakers to meetings of organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, to senior facilities, etc. We are looking for at least *two members* of your chapter who would be willing to address groups on ballot issues and/or act as moderators. We also need experienced moderators who want to continue their good work. Also, please bring the addresses of your local service organizations who may want our expertise so we can tell them of our service.

Contact Becky Thomas at 440-247-6878 or robrebthomas@sbcglobal.net with your reservation **before September 1st**. You will receive an email confirmation for dinner and directions to the library.

CUYAHOGA AREA Board of Directors 2007-2008

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LWVCA DIVERSITY POLICY

The LWV in both its values and practices, affirms its belief and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in activity of the LWV on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual

orientation, national origin or disability. The LWV Recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision making. LWV subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds

and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs. The LWV affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of America in its board, staff and programs.

Calendar of Events

- Aug. 28 **Meet Jane Platten, Director, Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.**
Tuesday, 5:30 to 7:30 PM
Host: Greater Cleveland Voter Coalition
Laborers Local 310 Hall, 3250 Euclid Ave.
Free parking (from Prospect) and refreshments
- Sept. 6 **Voter Service "Best Practices" Training**
Thursday, 5:30 PM, Independence Library
Light supper
- Sept. 13 **First Thursday Forum: ANOTHER ERA OF WATER FIGHTS: The Battle for Great Lakes Water**
Thursday, 7:00 p.m. West Shore Unitarian Universalist Church
20401 Hilliard Blvd., Rocky River
- Sept. 17 **Constitution Day Celebration**
Monday, 12:00 Noon, Tower City
- Sept. 18, **LWV Cleveland Area Belle Sherwin Award Luncheon**
Tuesday, Honorees Dorothy Fike and Claire Rosacco
216-781-8375 for information/reservations
- Sept. 27 **A FAMILY COURT: Would it work in Cuyahoga County?**
Thursday, 4:30-7:30 PM., Butler Hall, YMCA, 2200 Prospect Ave., free parking, refreshments

- LWV Cuyahoga Area Candidate Nights: 7:00 PM**
- Oct. 10 **Lakewood Issues Forum,**
Wed., Lakewood Women's Pavilion
- Oct. 17 Cleveland Heights and University Heights
Wed., Cleveland Heights Community Center
- Oct. 18 Bay Village
Thursday, Bay Village High School
29230 Wolf Rd
- Oct. 22 Fairview Park
Monday, Council Chambers
Fairview Park City Hall
- Oct. 23 Chagrin Falls
Tuesday, Hamlet Hills Club House
- Oct. 25 Lakewood
Thursday, City Council Chambers
- Oct. 29 Rocky River
Monday, Umerley Community Center
Rocky River
- Consensus Meetings 7:00 PM**
- Nov. 5 Monday, Rocky River Public Library
1600 Hampton Rd.
- Nov.15 Thursday, 2611 Fairmount Blvd.
Cleveland Heights

CA COMMUNITIES

- Bay Village
- Beachwood
- Bedford
- Bedford Heights
- Bentleyville
- Brecksville
- Broadview Heights
- Brooklyn
- Brooklyn Heights
- Chagrin Falls Township
- Chagrin Falls Village
- East Cleveland
- Cleveland Heights
- Cuyahoga Heights
- Fairview Park
- Garfield Heights
- Gates Mills
- Glenwillow
- Highland Heights
- Highland Hills
- Hunting Valley
- Lakewood
- Linndale
- Lyndhurst
- Maple Heights
- Mayfield Heights
- Mayfield Village
- Moreland Hills Village
- Newburg Heights Village
- North Olmsted
- North Randall
- North Royalton
- Oakwood
- Orange
- Parma
- Parma Heights
- Pepper Pike
- Richmond Heights
- Rocky River
- Seven Hills
- Solon
- South Euclid
- University Heights
- Valley View
- Walton Hills
- Warrensville Heights
- Westlake
- Woodmere

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS-
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