



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
CUYAHOGA AREA**  
Serving 48 Cuyahoga County Communities

**CUYAHOGA AREA  
VOTER**  
Volume 4 Issue 4 Mar/Apr 2007

**Spring Calendar**

March 1, 2007, Thursday, 7:00-9:00pm. **First Thursday Forum Our Great Lakes--Our Future, Our Responsibility - Protecting Our Eco-Fragile Gem.** Speaker: Kristy Meyer, Lake Erie Program Director at The Ohio Environmental Council. This project is made possible by a grant from the George Gund Foundation and the League of Women Voters Cuyahoga Area Education Fund in partnership with Eco-City Cleveland. Make reservations by calling 216-781-0555.



March 8, 2007, Thursday, 6pm. Reservations by March 3<sup>rd</sup>. LWV Akron Area presents: **'THE UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM GOALS'** See details on page 3.

March 24, 2007, Saturday, 1-3pm. **Voter Service Moderator Training Session.** Details on page 2.

March 29, 2007, Thursday, 7:00-9:00pm. Lakewood Chapter of LWVCA invites you to a **Town Hall Meeting to discuss "Accountability: The State of Public Assistance"**. Lakewood Women's Pavilion in Lakewood Park. Details on page 3.

March 29, 2007, Thursday, 9:15am-3:00pm. **LWVO Statehouse Day.** Information and reservation form available at the LWVO web site [www.lwvohio.org](http://www.lwvohio.org)

April 16, 2007 **Deadline for Lakewood Flower Sale orders.** Pickup date is May 19<sup>th</sup>. Order form enclosed and available at web site [www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org](http://www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org)

May 4-6, 2007, **LWVO 57<sup>th</sup> State Convention.** Hosted by the LWV of Akron.

May 5, 2007, Saturday, 10am. **Environmental Day in Oberlin.** Details on page 3.

May 19, 2007, Saturday. **LWV Cuyahoga Area Annual Meeting - Ohio & Erie Canal Reservation Canalway Center.** Details in the next Voter.

May 20, 2007, Sunday. LWV Cuyahoga Area Theater Party at the Cleveland Playhouse. **"Lincolnesque"** Save the date. Details to follow.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings snow lovers...and to all you snow-birds, aren't you sorry you're not here to enjoy this beautiful, fluffy, glistening fairyland called Ohio.

We're looking forward to so many exciting events and activities in the next few months, be sure to check the front page calendar and make your reservations or save the dates.

Congratulate yourself for being part of an organization that works to implement its mission in meaningful and personal ways. The LWV Cuyahoga Area in cooperation with the LWV Cleveland Area and the LWV Shaker Heights sent letters and voter registration forms to the 1250 voters who were disenfranchised in the November election because they were not registered and their provisional ballot was not counted. It is not the policy of the Board of Elections to inform these voters that their ballots did not count unless the voter calls the BoE and requests the information. The League's goal was to inform the voter and provide them with the opportunity to re-register so that they would be able to vote in the next election. Projects like this are made possible by your contributions to the LWV Cuyahoga Area Education Fund. It's nice to know how that money is used to make an impact in our region. We are indebted to the LWV-SH for the idea and for enabling all of us to share in this opportunity to live our mission.

There are many opportunities to be part of the work of the League. Please read your Voter carefully, log on to [www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org](http://www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org) for more information and by all means participate in your Chapter activities and events. Some Chapters are meeting for lunch and/or coffee and sharing the latest League news. Whatever your interest you'll find a kindred soul in League, but there is no League without "U".

*Kathy*

## An Opportunity for You...putting the U in League!

Happy 87<sup>th</sup> Birthday LWV! Remember measuring yourself on your birthday. Every mark was an opportunity to discover how much you had grown in the past year. LWV Cuyahoga Area is marking this 87<sup>th</sup> birthday by building on a well-known and well-respected reputation of fairness and non-partisanship. Our candidate nights are certainly the bedrock of our Voter Service, and it's time to grow.

The Voter Service committee announces the formation of a Speakers Bureau to enable LWV Cuyahoga Area to reach out to voters across the region—service clubs, senior centers, school groups, you name it. Topics will include voting procedures and elections issues, but will expand to include talks on program areas as the Bureau staff increases.

**Moderators** are the face of League at candidate forums. The kick-off of the Speakers Bureau will be a training session for moderators as League prepares for the spring election cycle. Chapter Chairs will be given the latest information from the LWVO Voter Service Handbook as plans are being set for the fall candidate forums, and this session is a must for anyone who wishes to be a moderator. This will be an excellent opportunity for experienced moderators to share their expertise, sharpen their skills and inspire the new recruits. If you always wanted to be a moderator but felt you lacked the training, here's your chance. Here's everything you'll need to know to be a successful candidate forum moderator—and enjoy it!

See **YOU** at the inaugural **Moderator Training Session, March 24<sup>th</sup>** from **1-3pm** at the home of Jean Seasholtz, 2777 Wakefield Lane, Westlake.

Celebrate the League's Birthday and reserve your spot on the Speakers Bureau! We're 87 and still growing! Contact Becky Thomas VP Voter Service [robrebthomas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:robrebthomas@sbcglobal.net)

## AN ENVIRONMENTAL DAY IN OBERLIN

LWV Cuyahoga Area is invited to join LWV Oberlin on Saturday, May 5 at 10:00am to experience an Environment Day in Oberlin at the Adam J. Lewis Center for Environmental Studies. The Center is designed to purify and reuse non-potable wastewater on site, utilize sustainably grown or produced materials, and eliminate the use of toxic materials. The building is a laboratory that showcases environmentally efficient building techniques. There will be a guided tour at 10am, followed by a presentation by Dr. David Orr, a professor at Oberlin, a well-known speaker on environmental issues and author of several books.

Environmental Day continues with lunch at Kendal. The lunch speaker will be from the George Jones Farm and Nature Preserve, host to the New Agrarian Center, a regional organization working to promote a more sustainable and just food system in Ohio. Tours of the Farm and Nature Preserve will be available after lunch.

Lunch reservations are a must: Send your \$10.00 check payable to Joanne Norenberg, 116 Kendal Drive, Oberlin, OH 44074.

Directions: I-480 west to Rt. 10 (Oberlin), Rt. 10 turns into Rt. 20. Turn off 20 at State Route 511, which takes you to the center of Oberlin and Tappan Square. Continue west to N. Professor, turn left and pass W. College and turn right (west) on Elm St. The Environmental Center is the second large building on the right side of the street. Continue on and you will see a parking lot. For additional direction contact Roslyn [Talerico-rrtalerico@adelphia.net](mailto:Talerico-rrtalerico@adelphia.net) or 216.524.1813.

## LEAGUE TOWN MEETING ASKS: "How Healthy is Welfare?"

The Lakewood Chapter of the LWV-CA invites you to a Town Hall meeting titled, "Accountability: The State of Public Assistance," on Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9 pm, at the Women's Pavilion, Lakewood Park (intersection of Lake and Belle Avenues). The meeting features a discussion panel on Welfare and honors four outstanding professionals who have made a positive impact in their fields. This event is part of the "Ohio Democracy Project-Political Reform through Citizen Engagement, or imPACT (Political Accountability for Citizens Today). imPACT is funded by the Chicago-based Joyce Foundation. Visit the LWVO website, [www.lwvo.org](http://www.lwvo.org) for more information.

We expect accountability from our government agencies, but in order to assess their effectiveness we need to know the facts about local poverty and the delivery of appropriate services.

The League honored blue ribbon panel includes:

**Dr. Claudia Coulton**, Co-Director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change, CWRU

**Dr. Kate A. Foley**, Director of Student Services, Lakewood City Schools

**Mr. Michael Scherer**, Director, Lakewood Christian Service Center

**Ms. Betsy Schaughnessy**, Director of Admitting, Lakewood Hospital.

We urge all Leaguers to attend and bring a guest. Any citizen who has an interest in good government will appreciate this program. Event Chair is Mary Warren, 216.221.2975

### LWV AKRON AREA THE UNITED NATIONS MILLENNIUM GOALS'

Thursday, March 8, 2007

Martin University Center, 105 Fir Hill, Akron.

6:00pm Dinner \$25.00 Reservations to: Sharley Greer, LWVAA, 380 Mineola Ave., Akron, OH 44320

**Deadline:** March 3, 2007. The speaker will be Zaida Arguedas, UN Observer for the League of Women Voters.

The Millennium Development Goals provide a blueprint for mobilizing unprecedented efforts aimed at meeting the needs of the world's poorest by 2015. Under the leadership of UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, 191 nations adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration in September 2000. Ms. Arguedas, UN Observer and Director of Global Democracy Programs for the League of Women Voters of the United States, will focus her remarks on three of the eight Millennium goals:

- To eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- To promote gender equality and empower women
- To ensure environmental sustainability

This forum is funded by the LWVAA Education Fund and LWV Cuyahoga Area is proud to be a partner in the presentation.

**NEW STUDY:  
IMMIGRATION POLICY**

Join the Immigration Study Committee. If you are interested in working on the new U.S. League of Women Voters local Immigration Study Committee, please let me know. Roslyn Talerico, Vice President Program and Advocacy at [rrtalerico@adelphia.net](mailto:rrtalerico@adelphia.net) or 216-524-1813. Cleveland has a long and interesting immigration history. This study could be very intriguing. See February National Voter for background information.

**A FAMILY COURT FOR CUYAHOGA  
COUNTY?**

Probate, Juvenile, and Domestic Relations Courts overlap in some areas such as child custody and control issues.

It's a fact... A concerned grandparent can get legal responsibility for a grandchild through a guardianship in Probate Court, or legal custody in Juvenile Court, or in Domestic Relations Court if the parents are getting a divorce. A grandparent or other interested party may have to visit several courts before finding out where to file. Satisfactory resolution of these issues within our present system is often difficult without costly legal assistance.

That's a-mazing...LWV Cuyahoga Area will explore the Family Court concept at a spring forum "A FAMILY COURT FOR CUYAHOGA COUNTY?" Watch the mail for your invitation or check the web site for the latest news [www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org](http://www.lwvCuyahogaArea.org)

**NOMINATING/BUDGET COMMITTEES**

...are meeting soon. Be sure to send your recommendations to any member.

**Nominating Committee:**

Blanche Valancy, Chair, 216-371-1439 or email:

[blanche@valancy.com](mailto:blanche@valancy.com)

Madeline Carr, 216-226-3037

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