

November-
December 2015

*Lighting
the way
since 1915*



THE BULLETIN

WOMAN'S
CITY CLUB
OF GREATER CINCINNATI



GREEN TIP:

Consider planting a tree. Register it at www.takingroot.info. Our region may lose up to 10% of our canopy due to Emerald Ash Borer. Other trees are also in peril. Taking Root encourages us to plant trees to combat the losses and to maintain canopy for the future.



Melinda Kruyer

When: November 12, 2015, 6:30 pm

Where: First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Street at Reading Road

This public forum will address the potential of regional water technology to become "liquid gold" -- to create good jobs, spur the local economy and protect and maintain the world's supply of water in a world facing climate change and environmental degradation. Melinda Kruyer, Director of *Confluence* will moderate the panel discussion.

Confluence is a non-profit working to collaborate across governments, universities, and industries to establish the region as a global leader in sustainable, environmental technology innovation. It is a clean water initiative with potentially great economic and environmental benefits given adequate financial support. An example, in the news lately, is the development of technology clean up the toxic algae in Ohio's water sources.

Panelists:

- Melinda Kruyer - Director of Confluence
- Bill Scheyer - President of Skyward, the new Vision 2015 for Northern KY
- Oliver Lawal - President & CEO at AquiSense Technologies
- Teresa Harten - Senior Environmental Technology Cluster Specialist, US Environmental Protection Agency
- Dr. Dorothy Air - Associate Vice President of Entrepreneurial Affairs and Technology Commercialization, University of Cincinnati.

The region is an ideal location for such an initiative. For a century it has had the nation's top water research facilities. We have the brain power and certainly the water! Join us to learn what water technologies have contributed to our region and what their future possibilities can contribute to further sustainability of our resources and our families.

~ Sarah Gideonse

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Alice Schneider

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

OVER this past Centennial year we have learned how much Woman's City Club has

enriched the community (see video on www.womanscityclub.org). However, it also enriches the lives of its members who devote time and effort to the organization.

Here is an example of how it enriched my life. When I was president in 1998, the City Council was voting on rescinding the campaign finance ordinance that it had enacted a year before.

"Go down to City Council and testify" in favor of keeping the ordinance urged some members of Woman's City Club. "What?" "Give a speech before City Council?" on Campaign Finance? I had little knowledge or experience of Campaign Finance up to that point. So, I dug into the research, combed the internet, and talked to others to prepare my speech which I gave before City Council. It did not, however, stop the ordinance from being repealed as the vote was 5 to 4.

The rumor was that one of the council members was promised a big campaign

donation for voting to rescind it. That was the beginning of the effort of a coalition of organizations to collect signatures and put it on the ballot as a Charter Amendment. As such, it would make it more permanent and it could not be voted out by Council. Several members of WCC joined in this effort. I was in charge of the endeavor to collect thousands of signatures. Volunteers from WCC stepped forward to collect them and we even collected twice as many as we needed. Once on the ballot, we mounted a campaign. The ballot measure passed! This was exciting work that I really enjoyed and it made a difference in the city-- one of the many reasons why I enjoy my membership with Woman's City Club. I hope that other members will share their experience and encourage others to join Woman's City Club.

~ *Alice*

NOTE: We are honoring four WCC members at the Feist-Tea celebration on December 6, 2015. They are Joy Haupt, Kay Smith Yount, Susan Noonan, and Catherine Roma. I hope you will come to hear their experience with Woman's City Club and see what a difference you can make in the community and in your own life.

CITY CONVERSATIONS:

Sustainable and Resilient Communities

When: Tuesday, November 17, 7:00 pm

Where: First Unitarian Church
536 Linton Street at Reading Road

Speaker: Dr. Kathleen Smythe, Xavier University



Dr. Kathleen Smythe

KATHLEEN will share her ever-evolving philosophy for ensuring the welfare of people and planet. She will present the important ways that humans related to the Earth for millennia and how our current lives are out of sync with our biological and evolutionary past. How can we restore balance in our relationship with the Earth?

You can't empower women without listening to their stories. You've lived them, you're the experts.

-Gloria Steinem

Kathleen teaches African history, global economic development, and sustainability at Xavier University. She recently appeared on Cincinnati Edition to discuss her latest book, *Africa's Past, Our Future*. This is a history of the African continent through the perspective of global issues such as political instability, economic development, and climate change. It offers new ways to think about our collective sustainable future.

City Conversations meets monthly as an informal gathering of WCC members and friends to discuss topics of local and global consequence. A special welcome to Act One members!



DECEMBER HOLIDAY CELEBRATION at the Contemporary Arts Center.



WCC's Program Committee invites you to join in a festive evening of "Holiday Revelry" on December 3rd in support of our local Arts community. Partake of delicious food, lively conversations with friends and leisurely self-guided tours to inspire you for the remainder of the season. Tickets are \$7.50 each and do not include the price of food or drink. The evening begins at 5:30 pm on December 3rd.



*Invites you to
Our 6th Annual Feist-Tea Fundraiser*

December 6, 2015

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

at

Clifton Cultural Arts Center

Directions on the back



Honoring Four Feisty Women of Our Community

CAROL JOY HAUPT

CATHERINE ROMA

SUSAN NOONAN

KAY SMITH-YOUNT

Join WCC President Alice Schneider & our Feisty Women
for tea, sandwiches, dessert and fun.

NO CHARGE! VALET PARKING FOR THOSE WITH NEED!

*However, we appreciate your generous contribution in
honor of our 2015 Feisty Women. Your contribution helps
support WCC's Seasingood Education Award Program.*

The mission of the Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati is to
educate, empower and engage all citizens of Greater Cincinnati to participate in
promoting the common good. WCC's Feisty Women work hard toward those goals.

Please RSVP by 12/1/2015 on the form below
or by email: wcc@womanscityclub.org
Need more Information? Call 751-0100 (during office
hours)

WCC Marijuana Forum in September Engages Packed Room in Lively Discussion.



WCC kicked off our new season of Public Forums with the bold and controversial topic **"Legalizing Marijuana -- Is it Responsible for Ohio?"**

Over 135 folks gathered at the Red Cross Auditorium Building to “sort through the weeds and find the facts.” WCC collaborated with several co-sponsors to present a professional panel of guest speakers to discuss whether or not to legalize marijuana for medical and recreational use. Ohio voters will face a momentous decision on Nov 3.

The purpose of the forum was to provide factual information and discuss pros and cons and other issues related to marijuana legalization. There are passionate arguments for and against legalization in general, as well as other specific proposals.

The panel included representatives from the Responsible Ohio group- Eric Kearney, managing partner of Kearney & Kearney and Jennifer Doering, General Manager of Charles Seligman Distribution Company; Mary Haag, President/CEO of

PreventionFIRST! representing the Drug Free Alliance Group; Dr. Jeffrey Goldsmith of the Veterans Administration Program representing issues related to medical use; and John Burke, Commander, Greater Warren County Ohio Drug Task Force, addressing the Colorado experience with marijuana legalization. The panel was moderated by Jeffrey Stec of *Citizens For Civic Renewal*.

Members of the local press were present, and it was clear at the end of the evening that this issue is packed with passion and complexity. If nothing else, it gave voters a place to start and inspired further research on the issue. Overall, the feedback was very positive with many acknowledging they had no idea how much was involved. Our co-sponsors included the Cincinnati Association, Citizens for Civic Renewal, AIR, Inc, and the League of Woman Voters of the Cincinnati Area.

~ Cindy Rowland



Thriving
CINCINNATI

ON October 20, WCC presented its second major forum on the newly created initiative, *Thriving Cincinnati*, to a packed room at the First Unitarian Church. Over 65 people attended, and excitement and enthusiasm continue to build over the movement that the Louise Spiegel Subcommittee of Status of Women initiated in May, 2015.

Income inadequacy disproportionately impacts women, children and minorities – always a focus for WCC. The purpose of the *Thriving Cincinnati* (TC) website will be to increase civic engagement around the issue of poverty.

Thriving Cincinnati is envisioned as an invitation and a service to help individuals and groups to connect and collaborate on programs that address income inadequacy. The TC website will become a clearinghouse to gather information, exchange best practices, create and collaborate on programs working toward decreasing poverty in our region, increasing self-sufficiency, and ending inadequate wages and wage theft.

TC created a symbol – a five-faceted crystal representing residents, non-profits, funders, policymakers, and employers. All sectors are intertwined as reflected in the symbol. Let's grow *Thriving Cincinnati* into a region wide movement:

Become a partner (thrivingcincinnati.org)

Display the symbol with your own.

Join with others to address income inadequacy

Raise awareness of the different ways we can affect income inadequacy and promote self-sufficiency

Questions? Snoonan@fuse.net or hlkaufman@fuse.net

Woman's City Club Endorses CEDAW

WCC has endorsed the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the Cities for CEDAW initiative. We commend the City of Cincinnati for supporting Cities for CEDAW, and we encourage the City to implement the Cities for CEDAW program by reviewing its employment policies, establishing an oversight body and funding actions that promote gender equality and prevent violence against women.

~ Rina Saperstein, VP Civic Engagement

The Community Engagement Initiative Takes a Step Forward

A CENTRAL tenet of WCC's mission is to strengthen the role of the citizen's voice in the governance of our city.

Through our open public forums, action groups, and collaborations, WCC educates the community and models the democratic process through courageous dialogue and debate. Through our civic engagement Initiatives, we reach out to the community to seek ways of making our collective voices more powerfully heard.



To this end, the Citizen Engagement Action Team (CEAT) has been working for over two years in the City Manager's Office and with the Human Resources Department to build a Community Engagement infrastructure that enables citizens to participate more meaningfully in the decision-making process at City Hall. As reported in the September issue of the Bulletin, our challenge has been to bring about a true culture change within city government. This past week a promising step has been taken. A new city webpage will be launched beginning in November 2015. As a direct result of CEAT's work, there will be a page called *Engage Cincy* on this website devoted to community engagement.

The mission of *Engage Cincy* is to "strengthen the culture of resident engagement in Cincinnati by providing opportunities for everyone to have a meaningful role in city governance, policymaking and problem-solving processes. Residents bring a wealth of expertise, wisdom and experience to the table that can truly be beneficial to the role local government plays in bettering Cincinnati."

On the *Engage Cincy* page you will also find the City Manager's *Engage Cincy Challenge Grant*, a program that offers participants a chance to win one of five grants of up to \$10,000 for the development, launch and promotion of innovative projects that better a specific neighborhood or the entire city. Applications are due by Dec. 1, 2015.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

In Memoriam

Barbara Nightingale, 1917-2015



Barbara Nightingale

WE were saddened to learn that Barbara Nightingale passed away on September 17 at the age of 98.

Throughout her life, Bobbie was active in the Greater Cincinnati community. She was a Life Member of Woman's City Club and a contributing member of the League of Women Voters, always working at the polls, getting out the vote, and leading unit meetings at the Maple Knoll Retirement Community.

As a young woman, she and her husband Phil were actively engaged in the political life of Greenhills. They were founding editors of the Greenhills Journal, and they fought to preserve the village environment as a planned Green Belt Community. Deeply involved in the World Federalist Movement, the World Affairs Council, the Sierra Club and many other environmental organizations, the couple traveled the world with Procter & Gamble and the International Executive Service Corps.

Bobbie lived a long and well-lived life. Graced by a gift for music, a lively wit and loving generosity, she will be greatly missed by her two daughters, Jeanne and Nancy, her seven grandchildren, her twelve great grandchildren, and her many cherished friends.

Donations may be made in Barbara's memory to *Nightingale Montessori*, 1106 E. High St., Springfield, OH 45505, or to the *Natural Resources Defense Council*, 40 West 20th St., New York, NY 10011.



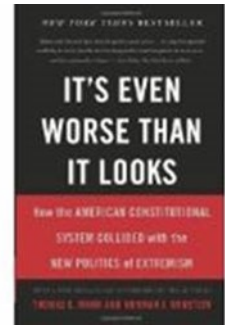
Woman's City Club's Book Club Reconvenes

Postponed to November 21, 2015, 10:00 am

Home of Erna Olafson,

1553 Oak Knoll Drive, North College Hill, 45224

RSVP - eolaf@yahoo.com or 513-558-4067



Along with the unrolling of the 2016 political season, we will be discussing *It's Even Worse than It Looks* By Thomas E. Mann & Norman J. Ornstein Paperback edition, 2013 First published in 2012, this volume continues to be relevant. It describes how hyper-partisanship and acrimony have become a permanent state of affairs and have seeped into every part of the political process. It identifies the overriding problems that have led Congress-and the United States--to the brink of institutional collapse. The paperback edition, published in 2013, has a new preface and afterward bringing the narrative through the beginning of President Obama's second term and assessing whether the authors' analysis continues to be accurate. Expect a lively discussion, as we do the same.

HELP NEEDED! Catalyst for Achievement Action Group (CAAG)



Making Sense of Language Arts is unexpectedly short about 5 tutors for Rothenberg and Winton Hills Schools, where WCC sponsors kindergarten tutoring.

Tutoring is Wednesdays at 1 pm at Rothenberg and Thursdays at 11 at Winton Hills, so there is a choice of times.

To learn more about the program, go to www.makingsenseoflanguagearts.org.

Training and materials are provided. Call Linda Wihl at 513 477-3428 for more information and to volunteer.

Action Groups Called to Update Missions

One of WCC's goals for this year is to clarify committee missions, roles, and how they work together. The Civic Engagement Action Groups will meet on **November 19 at 5:30 pm** to update their missions, names, and action projects for 2015-2016. We need to update work done ten years ago when we first established the Action Groups.

Some great new initiatives have grown out of our Action Groups since then, but while some of their names reflect a historic legacy, they do not communicate to the public what we do, nor do they effectively encourage members and potential volunteers to get involved. Recommendations for changes will be presented in early spring 2016. Action Group members, board members and concerned volunteers are all invited to join this discussion in the Geier Room, Mt, Auburn Presbyterian Church.

~ RSVP Rina Saperstein, VP Civic Engagement

Environmental Action



WOMAN'S City Club sponsors a monthly series of community conversations we call *Changing CO₂urse*: Every

4th Sunday evening we come together to discuss what we can do locally and collectively to meet the environmental/economic challenges of global climate change.

In September, Ginny Frazier from *Alliance for Leadership and Interconnection* spoke about her work greening the curriculum in the Cincinnati Public Schools. ALI helped CPS to become the greenest school district in Ohio. Their eco-mentoring programs inspire K-12 students to become environmental ambassadors to our communities.

In October, Dr. Mike Roman offered a compelling presentation on the *Human Faces of Climate Change*, the tragic consequences of Island nations on the front lines of climate change fighting to keep their islands afloat in the Pacific. There is no legal definitions for "climate refuge" so there are no foreseeable solutions. (See November issue of National Geographic: "Cool It")

Doug Bell of the Citizens' Climate Lobby, that same evening, offered possible strategies for addressing such climate crises through carbon fees that favor the bottom line of polluting companies.



The *Changing Course* series will break for the holidays to resume in January. On January 22 we will screen the new film: **THIS CHANGES EVERYTHING CAPITALISM VS THE CLIMATE** from Naomi Klein's book of the same name.

Meanwhile, please attend Larry Falkin's talk on Nov 8 at noon "Climate Change in Cincinnati" at the First Unitarian Church, WCC's Nov 12 program "Liquid Gold" at 6:30 pm at the same venue, and Dr. Kathleen Smythe's presentation "Sustainable and Resilient Communities" on Nov. 17 at 7 pm again at the same venue.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

Introducing our new Feist-Tea Logo



CJ Pierce

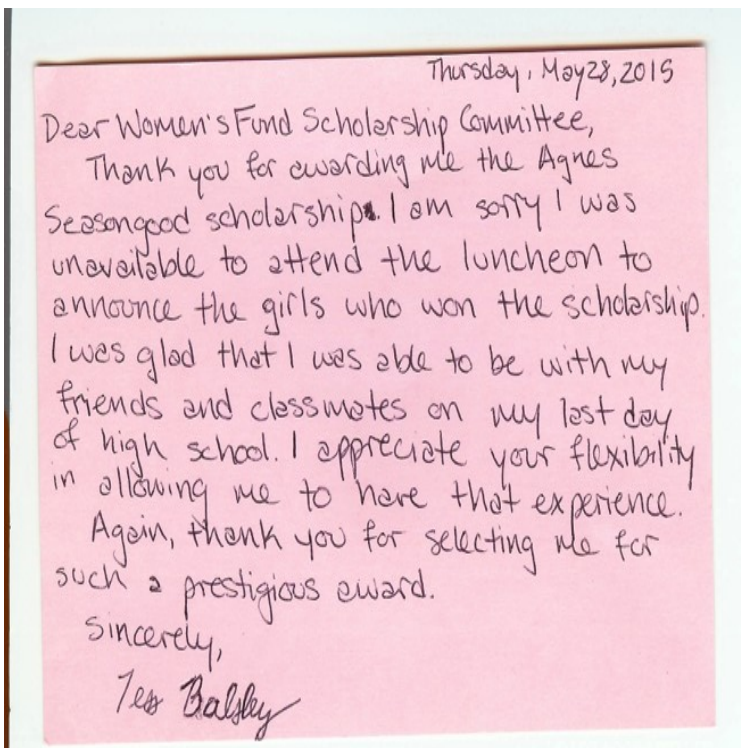
As a result of contributions made at our Feist-Teas, we were able to reinstate our Woman's City Club Seasingood Education Award Program three years ago. And this past year, we doubled the amount of the educational awards for the three young women who won the essay contest. This demonstrates how vital the contributions for this event serve to support our civic goals and values.

Your support and donations are greatly appreciated. Contributions can be made via PayPal on the WCC website or Checks payable to WCC, and at the event. Thank you!



Questions? Call CJ Pierce, Co-Chair Feist Tea Committee, (513) 309-0506.

Two 2015 Education Award recipients, Leah Hall and Tess Balsley, send updates on life in college and notes of thanks:



Hi CJ!

NYU is wonderful! My major is very stressful and requires a lot of hard work, but I'm enjoying every second of it! I was elected Freshman Class President of Steinhardt-- the specific school I'm in within NYU-- so I've been heavily involved in student government and that's also been taking up a lot of my time most recently. I started taking some extra dance classes in Times Square which have been a phenomenal experience. Mostly, I'm just taking advantage of the city and all it has to offer! I will hopefully be back in the Cincinnati area during winter break!

Thanks for checking in!

Leah

NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM 2016



Isabel Wilkerson

Planning Continues...

Isabel Wilkerson is a multiple award winner and critically acclaimed author of *The Warmth of Other Suns*. This book, a the New York Times' bestseller, brings to life one of the epic stories of the 20th century through three unforgettable protagonists who made the decision of their lives during what came to be known as the Great Migration. A gifted storyteller, Wilkerson captivates audiences with the universal human story of migration and reinvention, as well as the enduring search for the American dream.

Ms. Wilkerson won the Pulitzer Prize for her work as Chicago Bureau Chief of The New York Times in 1994, making her the first black woman to win a Pulitzer Prize. Her commentary and articles appear regularly, as do her appearances on national news programs.

The forum will be held on Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 7:30 in historic Music Hall in Over the Rhine. Mark our calendars now for this memorable event. For more information, go to: www.prhspeakers.com/speaker/isabel-wilkerson.

Report from WCC's Communications Committee

Coming off of our stellar Centennial year, the Communications Committee 2015-2016 goal is to "Continue the momentum to raise the visibility of Woman's City Club in the community and improve our internal communications within the club." This year the Committee hopes to harness that momentum for continuing club growth and awareness in our community.

Two specific efforts are around our website and our planned publicity, especially for major events like the National Speaker Forum in spring 2016. The website is a tool for communicating with members, future members and the community at large. Committee members Sarah Gideonse and Jeanne Nightingale are doing an extensive review of the website copy and are contacting club members with responsibilities for various projects and committees, seeking to clarify, and consistently state information throughout the site.

In addition to the website, the Committee is also working on ways to promote club events. We all appreciated the achievements made by many last year, resulting in much increased visibility for the club due not only to heightened publicity but to our increased level of high quality programs and our celebration dinner, publication of two books plus the video, and a new graphic look.

One of the comments heard often after the Centennial year was how much help we believe we received in achieving greater publicity due to hiring public relations professional and former TV news anchor Regina Russo to help with publicity for the Centennial dinner and National Speaker event. The WCC Board has decided to secure Russo's services on a retainer basis particularly for our programs and the National Speaker Forum in 2016.

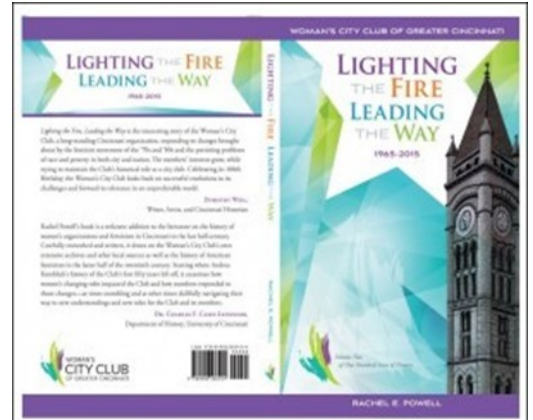
If you are interested in joining the Communications Committee, please contact committee chair Joni Sullivan Baker (jonisbaker@aol.com.) We generally meet the second Tuesday evening of the month.

Other committee members not mentioned here include Barb Elleman, Susan Noonan, CJ Pierce, Melissa Rowland and Alice Schneider.

Lighting the Fire - Leading the Way

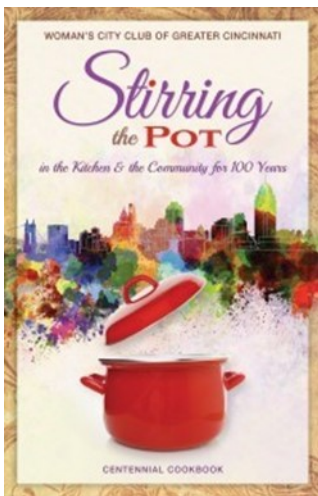
This centennial volume of Woman's City Club's 100-year history provides a narrative of our past 50 years from 1965 through 2015. Author Rachel Powell picks up the WCC story as recounted in the first volume by Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh, *Lighting the Way: The Woman's City Club of Cincinnati 1915-1965*.

The two volumes together make a compelling read. They tell the story of how the generations of WCC members worked together over this past century to carry out the Club's mission, one of strengthening the Greater Cincinnati community through educating, empowering, and engaging our citizens to participate in promoting the common good. As we embrace the challenges of this next century, these volumes provide an opportunity to celebrate and reflect on the outstanding achievements of our foremothers.



Lighting the Fire: Leading the Way can be purchased for \$20 on line at womancityclub.org. It is also available at the Bookshelf in Madeira.

Keep Stirring the Pot!



WCC's *Stirring the Pot in the Kitchen and the Community* was one of the ten cookbooks featured at the 9th Annual Books By the Banks at Duke Energy Convention Center on October 17. We were honored and excited to have been part of this prestigious event, our region's premiere book festival.

Stirring the Pot is now available at Joseph-Beth Booksellers in Rookwood, the Bookshelf in Madeira, the Spice & Tea Exchange in Rookwood, the Cincinnati Art Museum, and the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, at prices ranging from \$20 - \$24. It is also available directly from Woman's City Club for \$20. You can pick up a copy at the WCC office, order it on the website (there is a shipping charge). www.womancityclub.org. Please note that WCC profits the most from direct sales, but we deeply appreciate the convenience and outreach of the retail locations.

103 William Howard Taft
Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219
Phone: 513-751-0100
wcc@womanscityclub.org

The mission of Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati is to educate, empower, and engage the citizens of Greater Cincinnati to participate together in promoting the common good.

We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future. Committed to promoting diversity and inclusiveness, the club reaches out to collaborate with other community organizations in the city and work toward shared goals.

WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the latest schedule of Committee Meetings, check our Website Calendar at womanscityclub.org (click on the "Calendar & Events" tab at the top)

Calendar of WCC Events

Thursday, Nov. 12
PUBLIC FORUM: Liquid Gold:
The Cincinnati "Water"
Technology Story
6:30 pm
First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton Street

Wednesday, Nov. 18
SUPPORT THE CONTACT
CENTER'S TOY SALE
11:15 Am
Venice on Vine,
1301 Vine Street

Thursday, Dec. 3
Holiday
Celebration
5:30 pm
Contemporary Arts Center
4 E 6th St

Tuesday, Nov. 17
CITY CONVERSATIONS
7:00 pm
First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton Street

Thursday, Nov. 19
Acton Group Meeting
5:30 pm
Geier Room, Mt, Auburn
Presbyterian Church
103 Wm. H. Taft Rd.

Sunday, Dec. 6
Feist-Tea
1:30-4:30 pm
Clifton Cultural Arts Center
3711 Clifton Ave

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

For an updated list, go to the City website at cincinnati-oh.gov/council/.



Find us on
Facebook

Search for Woman's City Club Cincinnati and click "Like" to keep up with the latest news and commentary.

The e-Bulletin, together with the Weekly Updates and News from the Network, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in January. The deadline for copy will be December 15, 2015. Submit articles to sarah.gideonse@fuse.net with the subject line "WCC bulletin" (word limit 250 words.).

o Jeanne Nightingale and Sarah Gideonse, co-editors