

October—
November 2014

Lighting
the way
since 1915

October
GREEN TIPS

From
Mary
Gerson



The Bulletin

Continuing our Centennial Year of Events

A HISTORIC DISCUSSION
Civil Rights Icons Marian Spencer and Judge Nathaniel Jones
on
The History of Civil Rights in Cincinnati

PAPER

-Print on both sides of paper.

-Recycle envelopes, newspaper, ads, etc.

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Save money and create less waste:

Refills at Walgreens, CVS, Staples, Office Depot, and Costco.

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When: Wednesday, October 29, 2014. 7 pm,

Where: Geier Room , Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 William H. Taft Rd. 45219

Woman's City Club is honored to present Marian Spencer and Judge Nathaniel Jones who will give us their perspectives on Cincinnati's civil rights history. Who better to talk to us about civil rights in our community than these two distinguished civil rights activists.

Marian grew up with her family in Gallipolis in the home her grandfather, a freed slave from West Virginia. She became a member of the NAACP at age 13. She was married to Donald Spencer, a teacher, real estate broker, and community activist in his own right. One of Marian's earliest and most visible civil rights activities came in 1952. As chair of the local NAACP Legal Action, she filed a successful suit to let Negro children go to Coney Island and subsequently won the case, which desegregated Coney Island. In the early 80s, she spent a term on Cincinnati City Council as a Charterite. She has spent a lifetime as a community servant and civil rights activist, working especially hard to desegregate public schools.



Judge Jones is a renowned civil rights litigator and retired Federal judge on the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. He served on the Kerner Commission after the Kennedy assassination. As General Counsel of the NAACP, he argued school desegregation cases in cities across the nation, Ohio and before the U.S. Supreme Court. Judge Jones played an important role in furthering the abolition of apartheid in South Africa and served on the team of observers for the first democratic elections there. He has taught at several law schools, including Harvard and UC, and is currently Of Counsel with Blank Rome LLP.

**A City Conversations event:
New Members' Reception
Before the Forum at 5:30 pm**

Join us for this opportunity to socialize and network with old and new members. New members can learn more about Woman's City Club and how they might become engaged. Old members can learn about the interests and talents of the new members. Hearty hors d'oeuvres will be served.

For both events: You may park in the back of the church, accessible off Taft (driveway before the church) or McMillan). Enter the church off the parking lot. Turn right after entering and follow the hallway to the Geier Room.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Members and Friends:

With summer ending and fall arriving, the crisp, cool, sweater weather projects a feeling of anticipation and excitement:

Halloween, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, Christmas, and Feist- Tea. So many holidays and so much happening for the Woman's City Club!

First and foremost I want to congratulate WCC longtime, active and inspirational member, Louise Spiegel and her husband Judge Arthur Spiegel, on their induction into the Ohio Civil Rights Hall of Fame on October 2, 2014 at the Statehouse in Columbus. Such an honor, and we are so proud to have Louise as our friend, member and mentor.

Board member Marjorie Davies tendered her resignation because she and her husband will be travelling during at least 4 of 6 Board meetings (to some wonderful places) and she felt she could not be an attentive board member. Fortunately for us, she will continue to serve on the Finance Committee, the Investment Committee, Feist-Tea and chair our newly formed Internal Audit Committee. Thank you Marjorie! To fill the remainder of Marjorie's term on the board, we persuaded our social media guru, Alice Schneider, to serve. Thank you so much for all you have done and continue to do, Alice!

Save December 7th on your calendar - snow, rain or shine - and plan on attending the 5th Annual Feist-Tea Awards Event! Barrington of Oakley has again agreed to host WCC in their beautiful dining room and provide hors d'oeuvres, desserts and tea. We look forward to toasting this year's honorees: Ruth Cronenberg, our Feist-tea founder; Joyce Asfour, founder of Grace Place; Carolyn Briese, who helped create the education awards; and Cheryl Meadows, with so many accomplishments in the city – congratulations to four wonderful women!

A fascinating program on Cincinnati in Africa illustrated the compassion and motivation Greater Cincinnati's citizens have to help others in need around the world. Dr. Christopher Lewis and Dr. Victoria Wulsin's projects in Africa are innovative and lifesaving. Please check out our upcoming programs on other current, pertinent issues.

Our Status of Women Committee has re-energized and has two programs on the calendar: November 7th will be a continued collaboration of the agencies that participated in our 2014 Women's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo. Participants will meet with experts to discuss, "A Livable Wage: What Women and Families Need to Thrive." The second program on May 15th, 2015 will be our Second Annual Woman's Economic, Mental and Physical Health Expo at Fountain Square – so put both dates on your calendar!

Three more months and we enter our Centennial Year – we are all so excited about the Centennial Dinner and our National Speaker in 2015! Please look for more information on both events in the Bulletin. If you know of anyone who might be willing to sponsor our Centennial Dinner event or National Speaker event, please contact me at noonan@womanscityclub.org or 513-378-4122.

Happy Halloween – and Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Susan



Fifth Annual Feist-Tea

December 7, 1:30– 5:00p.m

Social time begins at 1:30 with the program following at 2p.m.
Barrington of Oakley, 4855 Babson Pl, Oakley, OH 45227

Honoring:

Ruth Cronenberg, our Feist-tea founder;
Joyce Asfour, founder of Grace Place;
Carolyn Briese, who helped create the education awards;
Cheryl Meadows, with so many accomplishments in the city

Congratulations to four wonderful women!



Conquering Unemployment

November 13, 7 pm.
At the First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Street, 45129, off Reading Road



Panel Speakers:
Dr. Odell Owens, President of Cincinnati State Technical and Community College
Janice Urbanik, Director of Partners for a Competitive Workforce

Join us for a timely discussion of the ongoing challenge of our “recovery” – continuing unemployment and underemployment with too many jobs being created with lower wages and too many jobs without qualified workers—and some approaches to mitigate them.

We are fortunate to have two speakers who are leaders in the community addressing these problems. Ms. Urbanik directs the Partners for a Competitive Workforce, a tri-state collaborative focused on meeting employer demand by growing the skills of our current and future workforce, currently through three initiatives. “Employers First” works to supply businesses with the talent they need to compete and grow. Career Pathways Partnerships works to close skill gaps and develop talent supply chains for key industries like construction. The Work Readiness Collaborative works to improve and coordinate work readiness, job placement, and retention efforts.

As president of Cincinnati State, Dr. Owens oversees the leading post-secondary institution in the community that is training people for skilled jobs, offering over 100 degree programs and certificates. He has continued to expand workforce training; just recent Cincinnati state receive a federal grant to train workers for the anticipated boom in transportation, warehousing and distribution jobs in the region. Previously, as county coroner, Dr. Owens continued to advance his career-long efforts to move young people away from drugs and violence and to appreciate the value of a good education. His wide-ranging community involvement includes Project GRAD, the Freedom Center, Knowledge Works, and the Red Cross.

CITY CONVERSATIONS: FOLLOW UP DISCUSSION ABOUT CONQUERING UNEMPLOYMENT

When: Tuesday, November 18, 7 pm
Where: Art wall in the lobby of the First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Street, 45129, off Reading Road
Discussion leader: Tim Kraus

Tim plans to show a brief TEDX film on creating the new economy and discuss some local initiatives, such the Economics of Compassion and Interfaith Business Builders speaks directly to this issue of unemployment. Tim is a retired teacher and union leader at Cincinnati Public Schools and a founding board member and producer at Media Working Group, and has a special interest in employment issues.

Join us to continue the conversation, share reactions, questions and ideas in a more intimate setting, and consider ways to get involved on a local level. As usual, light refreshments.

Think of Woman’s City Club When Planning Your Estate.

This summer my husband and I sat down and reworked our will. We needed to update some items now that our children are grown and some of our circumstances have changed. However, he prodded me...do you want to leave some money to some of your favorite organizations. Yes, I do, but which ones and how much and what do I do? Actually, I found this easy to designate some money to Woman’s City Club. I have a small account with Vanguard Group and I checked it to see if the beneficiary (my husband) was correct. While I was looking at that, I noticed that I could designate another recipient for part of those funds. Simple, I just put in a certain percent for Woman’s City Club of Greater Cincinnati in addition to my husband. So now, Woman’s City Club will get something from my estate when I die.

So, think about putting Woman’s City Club in your will, or your estate or as a partial beneficiary of a mutual fund that you may have. For more information email Nancy Walters (n.walters@womanscityclub.org) ~Alice Schneider



WCC'S CIVIC ENGAGEMENT PROJECTS

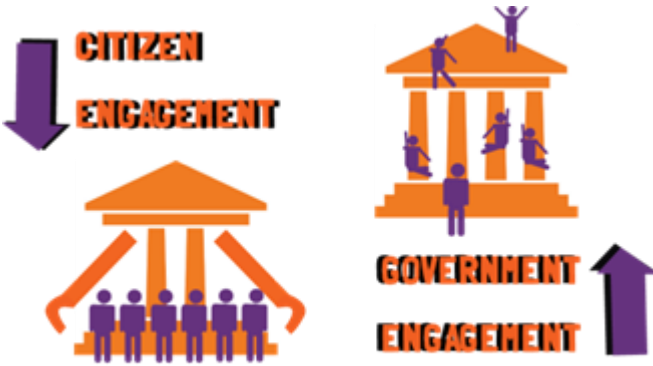


Illustration by: Saul Lustgarten

A significant milestone toward greater citizen engagement in developing public policy: City Council Votes to Adopt Mission and Vision Statements for Citizen Engagement

On October 8, 2014, Cincinnati City Council voted unanimously to adopt Vision and Mission statements to guide the City as it works with citizens to promote engagement between the public and City government

VISION

To be a thriving Cincinnati where all are engaged as empowered participants in shaping our shared future

MISSION

To strengthen the culture of citizen engagement in Cincinnati by providing opportunities for all to participate in meaningful and proactive ways in the City's decision-making processes

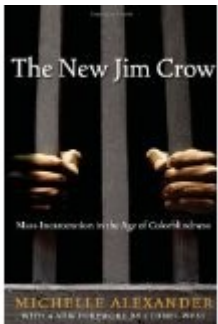
The motion submitted by Councilmember Kevin Flynn further states that the City of Cincinnati administration will use existing resources in order to:

1. Conduct a targeted survey of City of Cincinnati staff about their current practices and strategies regarding engagement with the public and their effectiveness. The survey will also seek ideas for improvements, tools or resources needed to enhance engagement activities.
2. Develop and adopt administrative regulations to guide City departments in future engagement activities.
3. Develop a training curriculum for City staff members who participate in engagement activities.
4. Organize an advisory group to assist in development and implementation of an engagement program.
5. Prepare draft engagement Policies and Principles for City Council consideration.

This victory marks a hopeful beginning. Before we can formally embed Citizen Engagement in City Hall, we must train City administration and staff, develop tools and resources, and establish a Citizens' Advisory Council to help build a city-wide program for implementation. The expectation as this process moves forward is that the Policy and Principles for implementation will be adopted by the City in December.

Back story: Woman's City Club has been involved in this process for many years. Ideas for strengthening the civic sector in Cincinnati and improving the culture of citizen participation in the governance of our city were developed in the research subcommittee of Civic Engagement under the leadership of Louise Spiegel. Expanded to include more citizen voices, the Citizen Engagement Action Team (CEAT) was formed in January 2013 and composed of a broad group of over 30 members of neighborhood and community organizations. CEAT drafted a proposal, Strength in Unity, a document anchored in Plan Cincinnati, the City's comprehensive plan adopted in November, 2102. WCC was one of many organizations that endorsed the proposal. CEAT's steering group has been working with a group of city planners, staff, and Councilmember Flynn to shepherd this proposal through council.

~ Jeanne Nightingale, WCC Civic Engagement



WCC Book Club, Saturday November 15th, at 10am

Jeanne Nightingale's home: 2626 Glenway Ave.,
45204

RSVP to Jeanne Nightingale at: 513-471-6622

Legal scholar Michelle Alexander argues that "we have not ended racial caste in America; we have merely redesigned it." By targeting black men through the War on Drugs and decimating communities of color, the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control—relegating millions to a permanent second-class status—even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness.

All members welcome; please join us for this discussion and exploration of current reforms and promising trend in the criminal justice system.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

News from the Environmental Action Group!



The Changing Course program for Sunday October 26, 7-9 pm, will be devoted to solar energy. Many in our community have found that installing solar panels on their roofs has become more affordable and lowers their utility bills. We will hear from folks who have successfully installed solar in their homes and the companies who have installed them. We will also explore how alternative energy is impacting our local economy through neighborhood solar sharing projects, the creation of start-up solar jobs, rebates and tax credits now available for homeowners and businesses.

Changing Course programs take place at St. John's Unitarian Universalist Church, 320 Resor Ave. in Clifton. Ample parking on the street and the school parking lot off Clifton Road.

2015 National Speaker Forum Presents...

**Mariel Hemingway, Actress
and Mental Health Advocate**
April 23, 2015, 7:30 PM
Music Hall Ballroom



Women's City Club (WCC) is excited to announce that Mariel Hemingway will be our featured national speaker for our Centennial year. Although well known as the granddaughter of Ernest Hemingway, she is a professional in her own right. Mariel is an accomplished actress, prolific author and advocate for individuals with mental illness. She has starred in many films and is currently the host of Spiritual Cinema, a monthly TV show dedicated to spiritual films. She also worked on the documentary, "Running from Crazy, a film chronicling the Hemingway family history of suicide, substance abuse and mental illness. She will be speaking about mental illness, suicide prevention and her family's struggles with these issues.

Tickets will be going on sale soon, so watch the WCC Weekly Updates, Bulletins and Facebook page for this announcement. Music Hall's Corbett Tower is large but we are anticipating a great demand for tickets so be sure to order yours early.

HELP WITH FUNDRAISING SOUGHT:

The Centennial Fundraising Committee and the National Speaker Committee have organized packets to use in soliciting possible sponsors of our 2015 fundraising events. We are seeking your help in identifying possible sponsors.

If you have contacts at companies or organizations that you would be willing share with us, we would like the following information:

Name of the Company or Organization

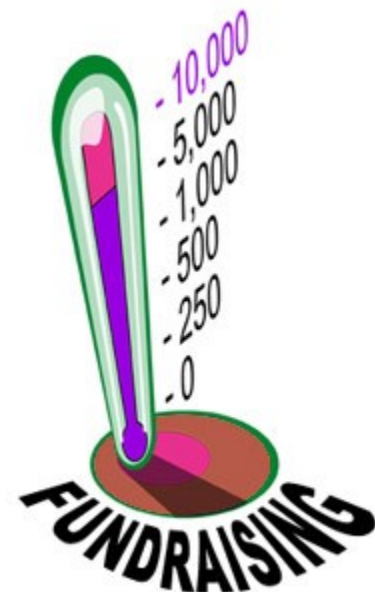
Name of your contact, his position, what your relationship is with him, his phone number/email or both, if possible
Would you be interested in participating in the meeting with a Board member?

What do you think might be their level of interest and commitment? \$10,000, \$5,000, \$3,000, \$1,500, \$700 table

For the National Speaker event, we will focus on hospitals, health agencies, insurance companies and any other health-related organization. For the Centennial dinner, we will focus on all other types of companies: law, accounting, P & G, G.E., etc.

Very Important: If you have contacts to share, please email them to Dot Christenson at dotc3430@gmail.com first! She will be keeping a spreadsheet with contacts, who will be calling on them, and what the results are, so that we don't overlap each other.

Thank you for your service to the Club.



**MEMBER PROFILE:
CHRISTINA BROWN, Member of ACT ONE**



Christina Brown joined Act One during the inaugural start of the program in 2013. When I asked her how she would like to participate in shaping the future of WCC, she said she hopes to serve as a community connector who will engage people across all demographics.

Christina currently serves as the Community Outreach and Engagement Coordinator for the Cincinnati Human Relations Commission. The most enjoyable part of her job, she says, is collaborating with individuals

who are invested in creating a just and equitable city. Professionally, Christina enjoys facilitating workshops and discussions, as well as researching educational materials that provide non-traditional opportunities to explain complex social issues and social innovations.

Currently serving as the Secretary and Public Outreach Chair for the Walnut Hills Re-development Foundation Board of Directors, she is also co-chair of the 2015 Martin Luther King Legacy Breakfast and PR Chair for Martin Luther King Coalition Board of Directors. She was recently named a 2014 Rising Star by the YWCA of Greater Cincinnati. In her leisure hours she enjoys blogging, traveling, creative writing, and...napping as much as possible!

Christina is a Columbus native who was raised by her mother, alongside her two older brothers. In 2010 she became a first generation college graduate when she received her Bachelor of Arts in Africana Studies and Political Science from the #HottestCollegeInAmerica (University of Cincinnati). She plans to pursue graduate education with hopes of eventually obtaining a doctoral degree.

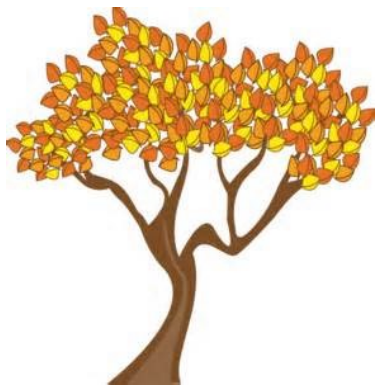
We are indeed fortunate to have Christina as a joint member of WCC and the League through the Act One program.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

NEWS FROM ACT ONE

The second year of the Act One program is underway with a host of new members who have a joint membership in WCC and the League of Women Voters. We invite WCC members who would like to work with these young Millennials who are eager to be a part of sustaining our future to sign up to be a part of this program.

Act One members have been campaigning this summer on registering voters and are now involved in getting out the vote. Our first Act One meeting of the season is Monday, October 20 at the Clifton Cultural Arts Center at 6 pm just before the Public Presentation of the Cincinnati Charter Review. We will brainstorm ideas for action projects for the coming year. We are looking forward to involving Act One members in helping to implement the Citizen Engagement initiative once it begins to take root in City Hall.



**Media Alert!
Cincinnati Charter Review Task Force hosts first Public Discussion**

The Cincinnati Charter Review Task Force will host a public discussion about what city residents perceive to be the successes, shortcomings and dysfunction in Cincinnati city government and how these issues relate to city charter reform at a forum to be held:

Monday, October 20, 2014
6:30 pm
Clifton Cultural Arts Center
3711 Clifton Avenue
(note: free parking at CRC lot next door)

The event is free and open to the public. Task Force leaders will explain the process for examining and proposing reforms to the city charter. Future public forums focused on specific issues will be announced.

The Charter Review Task force was created by Cincinnati City Council but it functions independently and without public financial support. This forum is being made possible by the Cincinnati Research Institute (CRI), a non-partisan, non-profit organization that is dedicated to elevating political discourse by conducting, collecting and commissioning objective public policy research.

For more information, visit mycharterreform.org or [facebook.com/charterreviewtaskforce](https://www.facebook.com/charterreviewtaskforce)
Media Contact: Anne Sesler, 513.686.9192



Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati



**103 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219
Phone: 513-751-0100
wcc@womanscityclub.org
www.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 organization reaches out to collaborate with other community organizations in the city and work toward shared goals.

Calendar of WCC Events

**Tues. 10-21-14:
City Conversations
Growing an Urban Community
from the Inside Out**
With Jen Walters and Mike Morowski,
7 pm at First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton St..
See p. 6

**Wed. 10-29-14 P
Public Forum and
City Conversations
History of Civil Rights in
Cincinnati.**
With Judge Nathaniel Jones and
Marian Spencer.
7 pm at Geier Room, Mt. Auburn
Presbyterian Church,
103 Wm. H Taft Rd.

**Wed. 10-29-14
New Member Reception**
preceding forum
6 pm at same location

**Friday, November 7th,
"Women and Families –
Wage Inequality and a Living
Wage"**
11:30 – 1:30 PM Mt. Auburn
Presbyterian Church – Geier
Room (103 Wm. H. Taft Road)

**Saturday, November 8th:
WCC Book Club** Jeanne
Nightingale's home: 2626
Glenway Ave., 45204
RSVP to Jeanne Nightingale
at: 513-471-6622

**Thurs. 11-13-14:
Public Forum
Conquering Unemployment**
With Dr. Odell Owens and
Janice Urbanik
7 pm at First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton St.

**November 18: City Conversations
Follow up.** At the Art wall in the
lobby of the First Unitarian Church,
536 Linton Street, 45129, off Reading
Road. With discussion Leader Tim
Kraus

**December 7th Feist-tea, Located at
the Barrington of Oakley**

**Tues. 1-20- 15 Public Forum and
City Conversations
Did You Know That The Ohio
Constitution Is Being Revised?**
With Judge Patrick Fischer and Jane
Anderson
Time, location TBA

**Fri. 3-6-15
Centennial Celebration Dinner**
At the Historic Netherland Plaza,
downtown

**Thur. 4-23-15:
National Speaker Forum
Mariel Hemingway on Running
from Crazy: Issues Related to
Mental Illness and Health**
7:30 at Music Hall downtown

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)

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

This e-Bulletin, together with emailed Weekly Updates and our website at www.womanscityclub.org, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in December
Deadline for copy will be November 21st, (word limit 250 words).



Sarah Gideonse, Managing Editor.
Jeanne Nightingale, Assistant Editor.
Nancy Sheckler, Layout Editor.



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