

May-June 2012

*Lighting
the way
since 1915*

**May-June
GREEN
TIPS**

**From
Mary
Gerson**



The best time to water plants is usually in the early morning both to maximize efficiency of water and promote healthy flora. Also, there is less evaporation.

FYI: Did you hear on NPR a green guy who was asked which is better to take, plastic or paper? His response was "Neither. Bring your own!"

- Mary Gerson

Inside this issue:

A Word from the President	2
Shakespeare's Shylock	3
Profile: Marty Harrington	4
Second Membership Meeting	4
Book Club	5
Goodbye Jan Connelly	5
Anna Louise Inn FAQ	6
WCC Calendar of Events	7
Cincinnati Poverty	7

The Bulletin

Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati



ANNUAL JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 5 6:00-8:30 PM

**A TIME TO CELEBRATE
LAST YEAR'S
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AND EXPLORE NEW
OPPORTUNITIES**

As we approach our 100th anniversary, we continue to work on revitalizing the Club and building its capacity. Together as stakeholders in the club's future, let us come together to explore new ways to adapt to the changing demands of this new century. This June we invite all WCC members to come share ideas on how best to improve the Club's impact on city leadership and citizen participation. This is a wonderful opportunity

to advise the Club on its future and at the same time get to know each other better. Meanwhile, look in your mail for a member survey.

Please join us Tuesday, June 5 from 6:00 - 8:30 pm at the **First Unitarian Church** at 536 Linton (Corner of Reading & Linton)

6:00 - 6:30 - Appetizers, desserts and social time

6:30 - Meeting begins promptly

RSVP by May 30 to the WCC Office at 751-0100 or wcc@womanscityclub.org.



2012 SEASONGOOD LUNCHEON BY ALL ACCOUNTS, A SUCCESS

The 2012 Agnes Seasingood Luncheon, at the Crowne Plaza Blue Ash/Cincinnati on Friday April 20, was - by all accounts - successful and fascinating! The Committee once again featured a woman who is first in her position. Candice S. McGraw is the new CEO of the Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport. Her presentation was informative, conversational, funny and full of **not** very well known facts.

Here are but three:

- CVG named Best Regional Airport in North America in 2011 and ranked # 1 for Customer Service Excellence by Skytrax at the World Airport Awards.
- CVG ranked Safest Airport in America by Travel & Leisure magazine based on FAA statistical analysis (2011).
- Airlines at CVG offer passengers more non-stop flights than any other airport in the region, including direct international service to Paris, Toronto and Cancun.

Continued on page 2

A Word from the President

“June 5 will provide an opportunity for members to come together and advise the club on what you see as our greatest challenges as we approach our 100th birthday. “



Greetings WCC members,

As spring unfolds into summer, we look forward to exploring new opportunities to work together toward shared goals, to imagine and develop new collaborative solutions, and to build an ever stronger sense of community in our city.

The Seasongood Luncheon with Candace McGraw gave WCC members a chance to contribute ideas for the new design of our major portal to Cincinnati, the CVG airport. Environmental Action worked with the SW Ohio No Frack

Forum to persuade City Council to pass a resolution against fracking in Ohio. The Status of Women Action Group is entertaining a collaborative project to end slavery and human trafficking now on the rise in Cincinnati. The Program Committee is looking at topics for next year’s forums such as Alice Skirt’s new book on the *Econocide: The Elimination of the Urban Poor*.

This past year we highlighted a series of programs and partnerships centered on the theme “Building a Just and Sustainable Community.” Thanks to the dedicated hard

work of our members, we continue to live up to our promise as we strive to match our mission to the demands of this new century. What will our focus be in the coming year?

This is the question we will ask ourselves at the **Annual Membership Meeting** on the evening of **June 5**. The Executive Committee is busy planning the event, so please mark your calendars and make plans to attend. It will be a time to celebrate yet another year of accomplishments and to imagine new ways of engaging and empowering citizens to play an active role in civic life. How can we continue to improve WCC’s programs and civic outreach? June 5 will provide an opportunity for members to come together and advise the club on what you see as our greatest challenges as we approach our 100th birthday. It is the time of the year when we welcome new Board members, exchange new ideas, and get to know each other even better.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

2012 Seasongood Luncheon—continued from page 1



CVG is working hard to attract airlines so travelers have better choices. The opening of the updated main terminal will help advance that goal. For the first time, the CVG has a public face. Ms. McGraw and the Airport Board are passionate about serving as a collaborate partner with the Tri-State Community’s business, community and government leaders to “reinvigorate and reinvent” the CVG. Candace McGraw invited WCC members to contribute ideas as we redesign the gateway to our city.

Another first for the WCC’s 2012 Seasongood Luncheon was to hold the event outside the city at a new venue. The Crowne Plaza in Blue Ash offered free parking, inexpensive AV services and very good food. Seasongood traditionally is not a money maker. However, this year made a profit of \$454.63, which is always a plus! We have had a lot of positive feedback from members who attended as well as non-members. The Committee thanks all who attended.

~ Susan Noonan, Co-Chair

SHAKESPEARE'S AMBIVALENT PORTRAYAL OF SHYLOCK



Brian Isaac Phillips as Shylock in Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," continuing at Cincinnati Shakespeare Company through June 3. (Photo courtesy of Rich Sofranko Photography and Cincinnati Shakespeare Company.)

On May 8th, Woman's City Club co-sponsored, with the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Blank Rome LLP and the Villas at Monteverdi, a special Shakespeare event.

This was Woman City's Club's second evening with Michael Cioffi at The Cincinnati Shakespeare Company. Last fall we pondered with Cioffi the perennial legal dilemmas epitomized in *The Man for All Seasons*.

After a wine and cheese reception provided by the Villas at Monteverdi, Michael L. Cioffi, Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Cincinnati and partner with Blank Rome, LLP, spoke on "**Solving Shylock: The Reconciliation of Shakespeare as Anti-Semite and Enlightened Humanist.**" Cioffi revisited the longstanding debate on whether Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* is anti-Semitic.

Mr. Cioffi noted the many derogatory references in the play to the Jewish people

and the portrayal of the Jewish character Shylock in the context of the negative treatment Jewish people received during Shakespeare's time. He convincingly argued, however, that Shakespeare subtly embraces the character Shylock as a victim of discrimination. Cioffi further noted that Shylock makes several pleas during the piece to persuade the people of Venice to view him as one who shares our same humanity. Shakespeare in the end humanizes Shylock as a person whose quest for revenge is understandably fueled by the discriminatory treatment he has suffered.

Following the lecture, the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company presented a first dress rehearsal of *The Merchant of Venice*. The performance was very moving and enthralling. The actors brought to life the complexity of the play's text and they performed their roles with a depth of understanding. Question and answer sessions followed both Mr. Cioffi's lecture and the performance. We hope there will be another such evening in the future.

~ Lori Nuckolls

CJ Pierce, Membership Involvement Liaison, is here to help!

Members seeking to become involved in Woman's City Club's activities and needing a little more clarity about finding their niche, please contact our Member Involvement Liaison, CJ Pierce at 513-309-0506.



{ PROFILE: Marty Harrington



Please stop in and welcome Marty to her new job at the Woman's City Club.

The Woman's City Club is pleased to welcome our new Office Manager, Martha (Marty) Harrington. Marty has had extensive experience with other organizations and is an active volunteer.

Marty currently edits the League of Women Voters' website as well as their "Voter" newsletter. She also does the newsletter and works on social justice at St. John's Unitarian Church. Her experience and skills in these areas will be very helpful to WCC.

Marty has worked as a campaign volunteer coordinator, and as a teacher and tutor for Cincinnati Public Schools, the YMCA and other organizations. She has an undergraduate degree in English from Allegheny College and a JD from Cleveland State University. She has been a law clerk and a Legal Aid lawyer. The better part of her work life has been spent working with computers as a programmer and analyst.

She is a mentor to three Latino children, and

ardently supports their family's advocacy for the Dream Act and immigration reform. Marty has picked up enough Spanish, she says, "to comment on how terrific the last meal was: "¡muy rica!" She is very close to this family and feels a part of their lives.

Marty's own daughter is a student at Mills College in Oakland, California. She can run circles around Marty in Spanish, but she has chosen a biochemistry major.

~ Leslie Cannon

WCC'S SECOND REGULAR MEMBERSHIP MEETING

"... membership meetings... are important for cohesiveness and the sharing of our stories and could be springboards for Woman's City Club action."

About a dozen members attended the May 1 membership meeting to discuss the last two programs – Kerry Kennedy's lecture and the presentation at the Season-good Luncheon by Candace McGraw, the new CEO of the Greater Cincinnati International Airport – and to share what they'd like to have the

membership discuss. Some expressed concern over Kennedy's naivety about the city of Cincinnati when she said the Trayvon Martin killing would never occur here. A few observed that Candace McGraw focused on Cincinnati without acknowledging the airport is in Kentucky.

There was general agreement that the membership meetings held in April and May on the first Tuesdays of the month are important for cohesiveness and the sharing of our stories and could be springboards for Woman's City Club action.

~ Jo Ann Huff Albers

{ MOTHERS' DAY OF PEACE



Did you know? ... Mother's Day was originally started after the Civil War, as a protest to the carnage of that war, by women who had lost their sons. **Julia Ward Howe**, American abolitionist, social activist, and poet, and most famous as the author of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" wrote the original Mother's Day Proclamation of 1870. In it she says:

"Arise, then, women of this day! Arise all women who have hearts, whether our baptism be that of water or of tears!

Let them then solemnly take counsel with each other as to the means whereby the great human family can live in peace, each bearing after their own time the sacred impress, not of Caesar, but of God. In the name of womanhood and of humanity, I earnestly ask that a general congress of women without limit of nationality may be appointed and held at some place deemed most convenient and at the earliest period consistent with its objectives, to promote the alliance of the different nationalities, the amicable settlement of international questions, the great and general interest of peace."

Rescheduled!

WCC BOOK GROUP

A Strange Stirring: The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s by Stephanie Coontz.

*“A Strange Stirring gives voice to women whose lives were transformed by Friedan’s book, but most compellingly, it sets the historical record straight as far as its impact on families.”
- Salon.com*

New date: Monday, June 11, 7 – 9 pm

Location: The home of Jeanne Nightingale
2626 Glenway Ave. Cincinnati 45204

RSVP to: 513-471-6622 or jnightingale@fuse.net

The WCC Book Club is an offshoot of the Status of Women Action Group. Moved by our reading of Nick Kristoff and Sheryl Wudunn’s *Half the Sky*, we will continue to explore ways we can support and empower women of the world who are trapped in poverty and abusive situations. — Women aren’t the problem, they’re the solution.

{ GOODBYE TO JAN CONNELLY



As our Office Manager, Jan Connelly has been a true pleasure to work with. She was persistent, creative, and – very important – a good sport.

Jan began working at WCC in December 2009 and was thrown into the busiest part of the year – ticket and sponsorship sales for the National Speaker Event. She urgently needed to learn our difficult financial software, and, at the time, had no one to teach her. It was like she was pushed out of a plane with only a parachute and written instructions: **“How to Skydive.”** Eventually she landed safely with the help of Barbara Elleman, our current Finance VP.

Jan has been a professional organizer, an artist, and an art teacher. She brought all these talents to her WCC job. She completely reorganized the office, and

she continues to help with the layout of the WCC Bulletin.

She is always eager to learn and to lend a helping hand. She has made herself available to our new Office Manager, Marty Harrington, to answer questions and give additional training. She is always very friendly, a trait that reassures her clients at Berlitz where she teaches English via one-on-one conversations. Jan has left WCC to take on more language students as there is a demand for her services.



We surely will be seeing Jan at WCC events, such as the upcoming Annual Membership Meeting in June. She has a genuine interest in the activities of the Club. We wish you all the best, Jan, and we will miss you!

~ Leslie Cannon

A RULING OPPOSING THE ANNA LOUISE INN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Reprinted with Permission from CinUnionBethel.org

What does the ruling mean for ALI?

The ruling means that the renovation of the Anna Louise Inn will be delayed, not abandoned. We disagree with the decision, but we will deal with it. It remands the renovation back through the City's zoning process. Basically, we must go through the zoning process again.

Why do we have to go through the zoning process again?

While we believe that we are zoned appropriately for office use, multi-family and transitional housing, the judge has ruled that we must now seek approval for conditional use.

How long will the zoning process take?

It should take less than six months.

Will CUB appeal?

We will continue to evaluate the court's decision in the next 30 days to decide the next steps regarding an appeal.

What's going to happen to the Anna Louise Inn? Can Western & Southern take the building?

Cincinnati Union Bethel owns the Anna Louise Inn, just as people own a home. Your next door neighbor can't take your house from you and Western & Southern can't take the Inn from CUB. However, they are trying to deliberately delay our renovation.

Why does Western & Southern want to delay the renovation?

They want our land. Western & Southern is a multi-billion dollar company who has used one tactic throughout this struggle: delay and outspend. Western & Southern is fully aware that this is a costly venture for us, not them. They have no qualms about wasting taxpayer's money in a frivolous lawsuit because they can afford it, and they are willing to spend any amount of money to create a neighborhood which doesn't include any low-income residents. We, on the other hand, will continue to defend the rights of our women to live at the Anna Louise Inn.

What's the legal issue?

The judge has ordered that we must go through the zoning process again. If we could raise the money ourselves, we could renovate tomorrow. The problem is that the funding we received to do the project includes support services - having a counselor in one office in the Inn - and that is wrapped up in the zoning issues that are part of the court case. Our lawyers have rightfully argued that the Anna Louise Inn has always provided support services and that the counselor is no different than a concierge at a hotel, who provides advice and makes appointments for guests and residents.

How can Western & Southern do this?

That is hard to answer. Western & Southern is using its considerable financial and political resources to deliberately delay our renovation, and Western & Southern hopes, kill our project.

Can we lose our funding for the project?

Our funders have been very supportive through this process, and they are fully aware of the details of the court case, so we have every confidence that they will remain supportive.

How do we feel?

We feel confident that justice will ultimately prevail. We will renovate the Anna Louise Inn for our women, who deserve to stay in their home. We believe the Anna Louise Inn has the right to provide safe and affordable housing for women in the Lytle Park District.

What does CUB need?

We need financial resources to continue to fight for the women at the Anna Louise Inn. As we said, this is a costly venture. We also need supporters to put yard signs up and bumper stickers on their cars (they peel off!) and to wear our support buttons.



Still in the fight!

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The mission of the Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati is to secure a more just and livable community for all. WCC programs educate, encourage, and equip citizens to play an active role in civic affairs.



Calendar of WCC Events

Monday, May 21

**Wrap-Up Meeting 2012
National Speaker
Forum Committee**

6:00 pm – Gathering
7:30 pm – Dinner
Home of Jeanette Rost,
9129 Fidelis,
Cincinnati, OH 45242

Thursday, May 24

**GASLAND
Free Film & Discussion
with Denise Driehaus**

7:30–10:00 pm
Esquire Theater,
320 Ludlow Avenue,
Clifton
See flyer attached

Tuesday, June 5

**Annual Membership
Meeting**

7:00-830 pm
First Unitarian Church
560 Linton Street,
Avondale

Monday, June 11

**Book Discussion:
A Strange Stirring**

7:00-9:00 pm
Jeanne Nightingale's
home at
2626 Glenway Ave,
Cincinnati 45204

Third in the Nation in Child Poverty: A Report Card for Change

WCC was pleased to co-sponsor the Wise Temple's May 14 program on child poverty in Cincinnati. The topic was inspired by Mark Curnutte's recent series of articles for the Cincinnati Enquirer. A panel of four represented four organizations: Legal Aid Society of Southwest Ohio; Interfaith Hospitality Network; Freestore Foodbank; and Cincinnati Public Schools.

The statistics are disheartening: one in four children in the Cincinnati area is food insecure. The panelists discussed the impact of homelessness, lack of affordable housing, mental health, and substance abuse. Other contributing factors addressed were high foreclosure rates, loss of jobs, and the many challenges of child care and transportation.

Most encouraging was the show of cooperation and partnering among the agencies making presentations. For example, Cincinnati Public Schools and the Freestore work together on the Power Pack program, which sends low-income children home with packs of food to help them through the weekend. For \$170, each child can receive a Power Pack for one year.

~ Marge Davis

WCC *Bulletin* invites your articles and input

The WCC *e-Bulletin*, together with the *Weekly Updates* and *News From Our Networks*, keeps our membership connected. We welcome your news and views.

The next issue will appear in September. Copy deadline will be Wednesday, August 29, 2012.
(Word limit is 250 words.)

Jeanne Nightingale, Managing editor
Marty Harrington, Layout editor

FREE FILM SCREENING AND TOWNHALL DISCUSSION

Hosted by Rep. Denise Driehaus and the SW Ohio No Frack Forum

GASLAND

A FILM BY JOSH FOX

Thursday, May 24, 7:30 - 10 pm @ the Esquire
Open and Free to the Public: First Come, First Served!

It is happening all across America. Rural landowners wake up one day to find a lucrative offer from an energy company wanting to lease their property. Reason? The company hopes to tap into a reservoir dubbed the "Saudi Arabia of natural gas." Halliburton developed a way to get the gas out of the ground – a hydraulic drilling process called "fracking" - and suddenly America finds itself on the precipice of becoming an energy superpower. Hydraulic fracturing, or "fracking," has been largely responsible for a huge surge in the production of natural gas. It has also been blamed for poisoned wells and dirty air.

How will this new boom in gas drilling under large parts of Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and West Virginia affect our lives? What are the costs to our health and to our environment? Will this be a trade-off between a short-term energy fix and the future of our drinking water? How does it impact us in SW Ohio?

Is your water safe???

Leading us in the discussion after the film are State Representative Denise Driehaus, who has introduced legislation to place a moratorium on fracking in the State of Ohio, Matt Trokan, Sierra Club's Conservation Manager working on Ohio's Clean Water Campaign, and Alison Auciello, Organizer Food & Water Watch.

Cosponsors: Sierra Club Miami Group, Food & Water Watch, 350.org, Ohio Alliance for People & the Environment, League of Women Voters' Natural Resources, Woman's City Club, First Unitarian Church Social Justice, and the SW Ohio No Frack Forum

For more information contact swohionofrackforum@gmail.com