



**Lighting the way  
since 1915**

# THE BULLETIN

January 2017

## WCC HONORS ITS FEISTY MEMBERS

### GREEN TIP:

Adopt Sustainable Habits



- Switch to reusable shopping bags.
- Ditch the plastic water bottle.
- Carpool or walk more often.
- Eat local and seasonal foods
- Consume less meat & more veggies.
- Join a worker-owned food co-op.

-Mary Gerson



Linda Wihl, Jeanne Nightingale, Alice Schneider, Carole Cutter-Hawkins, Nancy Walters

Photo Credit: Wendell O'Neal

### Inside This Issue:

<a href="#">Feist Tea Celebration 2016</a>	1
<a href="#">President's Letter</a>	2
<a href="#">National Speaker Update</a>	
<a href="#">Feist Tea</a>	3
<a href="#">Woman's March on Washington</a>	4
<a href="#">Thriving Cincinnati Update</a>	
<a href="#">Member Profile</a>	5
<a href="#">Report on Nov Forum: Fighting Heroin</a>	
<a href="#">Update on Community Engagement</a>	6
<a href="#">League's Consensus Meeting</a>	
<a href="#">Book Club</a>	7
<a href="#">In Memoriam</a>	
<a href="#">ACT ONE</a>	8
<a href="#">February Forum</a>	9
<a href="#">Calendar</a>	10

WCC members and friends gathered on December 11, for our 7<sup>th</sup> annual Feist Tea fundraiser at the Kennedy Heights Cultural Arts Center Annex. This is an occasion to recognize dedicated members whom we hold up as examples to emulate as we work toward fulfilling our purpose as a leading civic organization. The Feist Tea is also an opportunity to raise funds for the club's ongoing operations and to extend a special welcome to our new members. Your generous contributions help us work toward our fulfilling our mission to make our community a more just and more livable community.

This year 2016, our honorees were Carole Cutter-Hawkins, Jeanne Nightingale, Nancy Lu Walters, and Linda Wihl. Proclamations from Mayor John Cranley were presented by Future Vincent-Hicks, Melissa Rowland, Susan Noonan, and Marge Davis, each who shared stories of our honorees' dedication and service.



Photo Credit: Wendell O'Neal

**Carole Cutter-Hawkins** told us about how she learned from an early age to focus on the power within and the imprint one can make on the world through hard work, perseverance and service. She acknowledged her parents who instilled in her the confidence that with perseverance, education, and strong work ethic, she could do anything. As active member and former Club president, she derives satisfaction from helping others by providing enlightenment and opportunities for personal growth. Being able to see through the lens of others enriches each of us and makes us better people.

Continued on page 3

The Monthly *e-Bulletin* keeps our membership connected with each other and with the community. The next issue will appear in February. Deadline for copy is **JANUARY 23, 2017**. Managing Editors: Jeanne Nightingale & Melissa Rowland.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:



**Alice Schneider**

I truly feel like “Alice in Wonderland” where the world has seemingly been turned upside down recently. We now are confronted with “fake news,” “facts are not facts,” and general misinformation.

Recently on the Diane Rehm Show on NPR, CNN commentator Scottie Nell Hughes, said: “And so one thing that has been interesting this entire

campaign season to watch, is that often when people say facts are facts—they're not really facts...There's no such thing, unfortunately, anymore as facts.”

In another piece on Fresh Air on December 14, 2016, Craig Silverman, media editor for BuzzFeed, did a survey of 3,000 Americans and found that 75 percent of the time, the Americans who were shown a fake news headline and had remembered it from the election believed it to be accurate. Why do people believe fake news? Mr. Silverman explained, “when we're confronted with information that contradicts what we think and what we feel, the reaction isn't to sit back

“Thank you to all of you who donated to our pledge campaign. We exceeded our goal of \$5,000. “

and consider it. The reaction is often to double down on our existing beliefs.”

We need to keep informed. As Dan Rather cautioned, “To all of you I say, stay vigilant, Engage in your civic government. Donate your time and money to causes that will fight to protect our liberties.” Woman’s City Club will continue to remain true to our mission - *To educate, empower and engage the citizens of Greater Cincinnati to participate together in promoting the common good.* As we continue our four-step program: **Educate to inform. Inform to engage. Engage to empower. Empower to influence,** we will stay vigilant.

**Pledge Campaign Update:** Thank you to all of you who donated to our pledge campaign. We exceeded our goal of \$5,000. Coming in at \$5,865. This amount was divided among four categories: Education Awards, Tutoring program, WCC Public Forums, and WCC administration.

~Alice Schneider, President

## 2017 NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM: PLANNING CONTINUES

WCC’S 2017 National Speaker Forum welcomes one of America’s most prominent Latina journalists, **Maria Hinojosa**, to the podium. Letters are going out this month to invite members, friends, and supporting organizations to cosponsor the event and tickets for April’s event. The title of her talk is:

### “Latinos & Immigration: The U.S. Mambo”

Hinojosa’s award-winning NPR and PBS broadcasts give a critical voice to the diversity of the American experience. Latinos and Latinas are the fastest growing demographic in our country, and this presents many challenges. The rhythm of progress has been uneven. She calls it “the U.S. Mambo,” three steps forward, two steps back.



**Maria Hinojosa**

**Save the Date! Thursday, April 20, 2017 -- 7:00 p.m.  
Hall of Mirrors, Hilton Netherland Plaza Downtown**

# WCC HONORS ITS FEISTY MEMBERS

Continued from page one



**Jeanne Nightingale** credited her mother, the late Barbara Nightingale, for introducing her to the City Club, as well as the inspiration of the Club's feisty community of women. She identified two themes that informed her involvement in the city and as former Club president: women's empowerment and ecological sustainability. The synergy between the demands of equitable engagement and environmental justice will become ever more important as we learn to adapt to the growing threat of climate change. Working together is our greatest strength as we shape a brighter future for our city and for our children.

**Linda Wihl** expressed her gratitude to all those who contributed to the ongoing success of "Making Sense of Language Arts," her early childhood literacy program. She thanked her many tutors, donors, and advocates, particularly those who inspired her to expand her program so it would make a greater difference in the lives of more children. Linda's commitment to this effort has been a true gift to all who have been touched by her relentless resolve and enthusiasm.



**Nancy Walter's** steadfast goal has always been to make this world a better place in which to live. Motivated by the words of the Jewish proverb -- "Ask not for a lighter burden, but for broader shoulders" -- she has demonstrated exemplary courage and spirit in her many years as an active member of WCC, in her work on nearly every committee, and as president of the Club. What moves Nancy to spirited leadership is to make right what appears unfair. She will take a strong stand on issues, even though they may be controversial, and will inspire others to follow her lead.

## Our newest Woman's City Club Members



Deborah Allsop, Hazel Pegues, Carolyn Noe, Alison Nurre, Shannon Long, Arzel Nelson, , Michelle Dillingham



Photo Credit: Wendell O'Neal



The Women's March on Washington is scheduled for **January 21, 2017**, the day after Donald J. Trump is inaugurated the 45<sup>th</sup> president of the US. It is expected to be the largest demonstration around the inauguration. After some permitting disputes, the group finally secured a permit to start its march near the U.S. capitol **on Independence Ave. and Third Street SW**. From there, they will march westward toward the Ellipse. **It is scheduled to begin at 10 am and end at 5 pm**. There will also be "Sister Marches" in nearly every state and several foreign countries.

Most of the marchers are expected to be women, though men and children are also scheduled to be part of the event. The march has become a catch-all for a host of liberal causes, from immigrant rights to police killings of African-Americans. But at its heart is the demand for equal rights for women after an election that saw the defeat of Democrat Hillary Clinton, the first female presidential nominee of a major party. "We plan to make a bold and clear statement to this country on the national and local level that we will not be silent and we will

not let anyone roll back the rights we have fought and struggled to get," says Tamika Mallory, a veteran organizer and gun-control advocate who is now one of the march's main organizers. Dozens of groups, from Planned Parenthood to the antiwar CodePink have signed on as key partners.

**ACT ONE members! Please join us!**

Feminist scholars say the march reflects an emerging view of feminism: That it is less defined by reproductive issues such as birth control and abortion and more about how the challenges faced by women intersect with those encountered by African-Americans, gays and immigrants. Feminist icon Gloria Steinem is a co-sponsor of the march, and celebrities like Amy Schumer, Samantha Bee and Jessica Chastain will also attend. A lot of women seem to be saying, "This is my time. I'm not going to be silent anymore." Some see it as a chance to call for more family-friendly government policies, equal pay for women or reproductive rights. Some simply want to stand against the crass way Trump has spoken about women. As Hillary proclaims, "Women's Rights are Human Rights."

*If you are interested in going, contact me at 513-295-2603 to see if there are any more rides going to DC.*

~ Jeanne Nightingale



*Thriving*  
CINCINNATI

**A Service of Woman's City Club**

Using Thriving Cincinnati's theme of promoting adequate wages and information on how to survive and thrive, the December gathering provided a "Poverty Simulation" on December 12 at St. Vincent de Paul Ozanam Center.

The Poverty Simulation exercise challenges participants to walk in the shoes of our neighbors in need for one hour to explore poverty experientially. The objective is to help people in our community better understand the realities of living in poverty, to grow in solidarity and to take action on behalf of our neighbors in need. Participants take on an identity—a unique persona—developed by the Ozanam Center for Service Learning, based on the experience of neighbors who have entrusted St. Vincent de Paul staff and volunteers with their stories. The purpose of this simulation is for the participants to

think through what it is like to fill some of the basic needs for one month for their "family." Everyone attending agreed it was an incredibly worthwhile experience and we hope our participants will take the time to be one of the volunteers with another group experiencing a poverty simulation.

**On January 9<sup>th</sup>**, at the Mt. Auburn Church from 11:30 -1:00, Thriving Cincinnati will co-sponsor a second gathering with Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center on "Good Food Procurement" – another aspect of moving from surviving to thriving. CIWC is working to get healthy food in public schools – at no extra cost! A light lunch will be served.

~Susan Noonan

## Member Profile: Carolyn Noe



We are excited to introduce **Carolyn Noe** as Act One's most recent member. Carolyn moved to Cincinnati from St. Louis Missouri this past February to work for the University of Cincinnati as a Program Coordinator for LEAF (Leadership, Empowerment, Advancement of Women in STEM Faculty.)

The LEAF program is an NSF-funded program that provides programming to women in STEM faculty and administrators on campus.

She also runs her own non-profit, Super Heroines, Etc. and plans on starting a chapter in Cincinnati at the beginning of next year. Her mission is to empower women to embrace their "inner nerd" ("whatever that might look like for you!") by providing events and programs for women to build their personal networks and try out new and exciting things.

Born in New York, Carolyn moved to Florida at a young age. She attended Florida State University then went onto graduate school for a degree in Museum Studies at the University of Missouri. After graduate school, she worked for a museum in Oklahoma and then returned to St. Louis to work for the Academy of Science for three years. She was married this May after five years of being in a long-distance relationship, another reason for moving to Cincinnati. She is currently working on a certificate in web development with intentions of eventually moving into a tech career or even starting her own business. Ideally, she would like to do web development and consulting for non-profit organizations.

Being new to the area, she believes that joining Act One and being involved in two civic organizations will help her meet people and make new connections so she can feel part of the Cincinnati community. She is also interested in learning more about local issues and how she can make a difference. Since she enjoys working with middle and high school students and has a lot of experience planning and developing programs, she would love to work with that age group again.

~ Jeanne Nightingale

---

## NOVEMBER'S PUBLIC FORUM

WCC's November 16 Forum - "Innovative Strategies Gaining Traction in the Fight against Heroin" -- was presented before an audience of over forty-five animated participants.

Judge Heather Russell 's Hamilton County "Specialty Court" offers female heroin addicts who are involved in prostitution as a result of their addiction, an opportunity to come "off the streets" and participate in a voluntary two-year recovery program instead of going to jail. Women are treated as victims of addiction rather than criminals. One of the young graduates of the program spoke of her struggles to stay clean and now has a job and her own apartment. Her story was incredibly inspiring.

Dan Meloy, the Colerain City Manager, previously employed as a cop, and Nan Franks, CEO of Addiction Services Council, talked about Colerain's "Quick Response Team" which has gained national attention in its mission to save lives. Shortly after an overdose victim has been being stabilized by first responders -- firefighters, police officers, and addiction experts -- the addict's progress is followed up right to their doorstep with treatment options, with hope, and with a plan of recovery. These strategies are showing measurable progress.

Because of his innovative treatment strategies, Dr. Shawn Ryan was invited to meet with the US Surgeon General. Consequently, his colleague, Dr. Parag Patel of Brightview Addiction Treatment in Cincinnati, shared the technologies, therapies and concepts they are using to provide patients with the necessary support to meet both mental and physical health needs. Brightview provides an outpatient addiction medicine practice based on clinical best practices and outcome measures in conjunction with psychotherapy and social services. As Carl Bard said, "*Though no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending.*"



~ Susan Noonan, Program VP

# GROWING A CULTURE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:

## UPDATE JANUARY 2017

Propelled by Louise Spiegel's concerns about the city's weakening civic sector in Cincinnati, members of the Citizens' Engagement Action Team (CEAT) have been working over the past three years in the City Manager's Office to design a program to strengthen the culture of citizen participation in the governance of our city. While business and governmental sectors have expanded their influence on decision-making over the years, the civic sector has not kept pace, and public monies dedicated to the support of civic participation have sharply diminished since the 1980s.

In 2014 CEAT submitted a proposal to city council - *Strength in Unity* - outlining the principles of engagement and recommendations for implementation. Since this proposal was aligned with the mission of the Woman's City Club to strengthen the role of community voices in the governance of our city, the Club endorsed the proposal, and the motion passed council unanimously.

The implementation phase has been the greatest challenge, but it has taught us the value of patience. Working with the Department of Human Resources, we designed a training program for city staff that kicked off this past October. We met often with Councilman Kevin Flynn and more recently with Vice-Mayor David Mann to review the city's past history of community engagement and to discuss the possibility of phasing in a budget over three fiscal years that would restore the framework of support for community engagement. Just before Christmas, we invited David Rubedor, Director of



Neighborhoods and Community Relations in Minneapolis, to come talk with council members and guide us in the implementation. Rubedor recently published, a five year plan - *A Blueprint for Equitable Engagement* -- that offers strategies for eliminating disparities so that all residents can participate in the decision-making processes of the city and prosper from a growing abundance of opportunities. His model can perhaps help us here in Cincinnati!

~ Jeanne Nightingale

---

## All-Member Consensus Meeting at the League of Women Voters

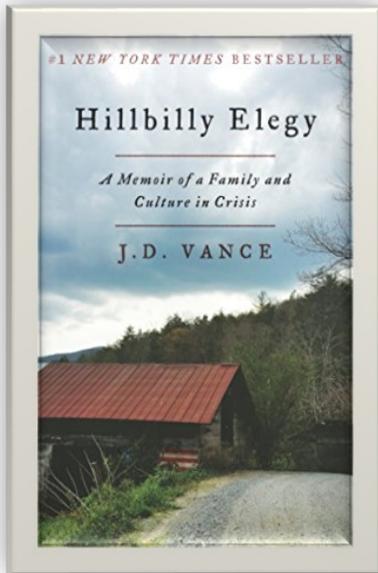
Ohio's current primary election system is a semi-closed, partisan primary, in which only party members may vote to nominate the candidates of their own party. However, any voter may affiliate with any party at the time of voting, simply by requesting that party's ballot. Turnout for primary elections is low. In years with no presidential election, it has been as low as 15% of registered voters.

You are invited to come to the January 21 meeting and join other League members to learn, discuss, and help develop a League position on primary elections.

<b>When</b>	<b>Sat Jan 21, 2017 9am – 12pm</b>
<b>Where</b>	<b>Geier Rm. Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church, William Howard Taft Road</b>

All members are encouraged to review the full state LWV position statements. Do any need updating or should any be deleted? Please review study guide: [http://www.lwvohio.org/assets/attachments/file/FINAL+%20Study%20Guide\(2\).pdf](http://www.lwvohio.org/assets/attachments/file/FINAL+%20Study%20Guide(2).pdf)

## WCC BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION



### ***HILLBILLY ELEGY: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis*** **By J.D. Vance**

**Saturday, January 14, 10 pm**

**Home of Erna Olafson**

**1553 Oak Knoll Drive Cincinnati 45242**

*Hillbilly Elegy* is a best-selling memoir of the struggles of America's white working class, a personal analysis of a culture in crisis. Many critics listed it among the best books of 2016, calling it a tough love analysis of the poor who backed Trump. J. D. Vance, a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, tells the story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck. It is a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town, offering an urgent and troubling meditation on the loss of the American dream for a large segment of this country.

All WCC members and their guests are welcome to the discussion. Please let Erna know you are coming.

**RSVP: 513-521-3625 [eolaf@yahoo.com](mailto:eolaf@yahoo.com)**

---

### **In Memoriam - Lucille Blocksom**



Lucille Blocksom, a longtime Woman's City Club member, passed away December 2 at the age of 88. Her memorial service took place Saturday December 17th at 2pm, at First Unitarian Church, 536 Linton Street, Cincinnati 45219.

Members may recall Lucille as a gracious (and highly informed) Cincinnati Art Museum docent leading groups of us on tours of special exhibits, arranged for us by Marge Davis when she was Program VP. As a tutor for many years in Price Hill's Oyler School, she encouraged some of us to volunteer with her. Lucille taught in several cities, then at Lotspeich School for 20 "happy" years. She was also active in the Noonday Club (a women's literary group), in the Weaver's Guild, and, as a volunteer, for many causes and organizations.

Calling those who are ages 16-35!

# ACT ONE

## HANDS-ON CIVICS IN CINCINNATI



League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area and Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati are recruiting for **Act One**, a joint membership initiative for young women and men aged 16-35.

### WHEN YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF ACT ONE, YOU GET:

- ✓ Free memberships to Woman's City Club & League of Women Voters
- ✓ Leadership Training and Access to Community Leaders
- ✓ Peer and Intergenerational Networking
- ✓ Opportunities for Civic Engagement to add to your resume
- ✓ Access to two centuries of Cincinnati Civic Leadership Experience
- ✓ A Deeper Understanding of City, State and National Issues

**Act One is accepting applications throughout the year from women and men aged 16-35 who are interested in joining both organizations for two years at no cost.** The program will feature mentoring, opportunities for civic engagement and tailored networking events during the year of the program.

**Those interested can apply by** emailing a response to this question in about 250 words to [actone@lwvcincinnati.org](mailto:actone@lwvcincinnati.org): "Why are you interested in joining Act One? What activities would you be interested in participating in?" We will contact you if you are selected.



**League of Women Voters** is a nonpartisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government. It influences public policy through education and advocacy.  
[lwvcincinnati.org](http://lwvcincinnati.org)



**Woman's City Club** is a leading nonpartisan civic organization established in Cincinnati in 1915. Programs are designed to educate, empower, and equip citizens so together we can secure a more just and more livable community for us all.  
[womanscityclub.org](http://womanscityclub.org)





**PANEL DISCUSSION**  
**“PATHWAYS TO CITIZENSHIP”**

**February 15, 2017**

**First Unitarian Church**

**538 Linton Street, Cincinnati 45219**

**Light meal and conversation at 6pm**

**Program starts at 6:30**

Confirmed panelists include:

- The Honorable Marilyn Zayas-Davis, immigration attorney and judge
- Klara Apro, an immigrant who will talk about her personal experience of naturalization
- The Reverend Troy Jackson, Director of the Amos Project, reporting on the tristate church sanctuary initiative
- Heyra Avila, a DACA college student
- Arlene de Silva, Executive Director, Asian Community Alliance, will serve as moderator.

Join us to learn about immigration law, the current legal pathways, the barriers immigrants face in becoming citizens, and a community response to undocumented workers' status.

**SAVE THE DATE — April 20, 7 pm.**

**WCC National Speaker Forum presents**

**Award-winning Latina Broadcast Journalist**

**Maria Hinojosa**

**“Latinos & Immigration: The U.S. Mambo”**

**The Netherland Hilton Hotel**

**Information about tickets and sponsorships: 751-0100**

**<http://womanscityclub.org>**



# Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati

103 William Howard Taft Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Phone: 513-751-0100

- Our Mission:** Woman's City Club is committed to building a strong Greater Cincinnati community through educating, empowering, and engaging all citizens to participate in promoting the common good.
- Our Vision:** We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future.
- Our Values:** Collaboration -- Citizen Empowerment -- Civic Literacy -- Equity and Justice -- Children and Youth on Positive Trajectories to Achieve their Dreams and Lead Constructive Lives -- A Thriving City of the Future.

## Calendar of WCC Events

### Monday Jan 9 11:30am

WCC Forum: Good Food Procurement  
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
103 William Howard Taft

### Wednesday Jan 11 6:30pm

WCC Forum on "Drugs, Addiction, Equity, and Race"  
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
103 William Howard Taft

### Saturday Jan 21 10:00am

Woman's March on Washington  
Washington, DC

### Saturday Jan 21 9:00am

All-Member Consensus Meeting on Primary Election System in Ohio  
League of Woman Voters  
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church  
103 Wm Howard Taft

### Wednesday Feb 15 6:30pm

Path to Citizenship: Personal Stories and Policy Issues  
First Unitarian Church  
536 Linton St

### Thursday March 2 6:30pm

Cincinnati Ballet -  
Honor Victoria Morgan

### Thursday, April 20

National Speaker

### WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the latest schedule of Committee Meetings, check our Website Calendar at [womanscityclub.org](http://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/](http://cincinnati-oh.gov/council/).



Like Woman's City Club Cincinnati on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and commentary.



Like us on Twitter @womanscityclub

The Bi-Monthly e-Bulletin, together with the Bi-Weekly Updates & News from the Network, keeps our membership connected with each other and the community. The next issue will appear in January. Deadline for copy is **December 15, 2016**. Managing Editors: Jeanne Nightingale & Melissa Rowland.