

# THE BULLETIN

## ANNUAL REPORT

June-July 2018

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### Welcome to the 2018

### Annual Report for Woman's City Club

1  
2  
3 In the pages of this June Issue,  
4 you will find our annual financial  
5 report as well as accounts of  
6 committee work that Woman's  
7 City Club has accomplished this  
8 past year 2017-2018.



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10 Formed over a century ago, WCC marks its 103<sup>rd</sup> year of Lighting the  
11 Fire and Leading the Way toward the realization of our foundational  
12 vision: A just and sustainable community where all citizens are en-  
13 gaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of a shared future.  
14 Educate to Inform - Inform to engage - Engage to empower -  
15 Empower to influence.  
16  
17 To this end we held many public forums such as *"The Intersection  
Between Poverty and the Environment;"* a two-part series of  
programs called *"Win-Win Strategies for the Employer and Employee;"*  
a program entitled *"CLEAN SLATE: Wiping Out Criminal Justice-  
Related Barriers to Employment,"* and another very timely program,  
*"Common Sense Solutions to Gun Violence."* WCC also collaborated in  
the Fall with the Rookwood Group to plan two interactive  
*"Conversations with Candidates."*

Our National Speaker this spring was ABC NEWS Correspondent,  
**Martha Raddatz**, whose topic could not be more timely: *"What in  
the World: Global Hot Spots and U.S. Foreign Policy."* Originally

The Monthly *e-Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network and our community. The next issue will appear August 1. The deadline for submissions and committee reports will be Tuesday, July 24. ~ Editorial Board: Jeanne Nightingale, Sarah Gideon, Jo-Ann Albers, and Anne Skove



scheduled for April 15 – the very weekend the White House ordered strikes in Syria – her presentation had to be postponed until May 29. She was required of course to remain in Washington to cover the news! In the end, this year's National Speaker Forum may have been our most successful ever.

As president, I am thankful for all the hard work of our board and our committee members, as well as the participation of our members, the contributions of our sponsors, and the ongoing support of the Greater Cincinnati community. I hope to see you all on June 21 in the Geier Room for

WCC's Annual Meeting.

~ Nancy Lu Walters, President



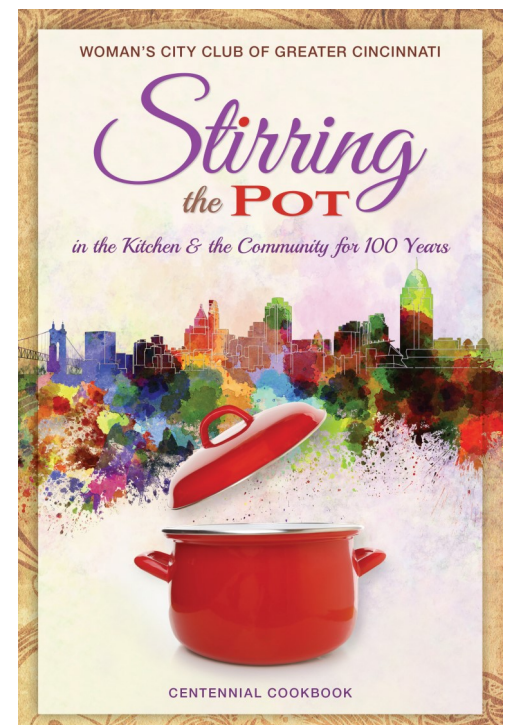
## JUNE'S ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 21

### Keep "Stirring the Pot"!

Our annual meeting will be held on **Thursday, June 21 from 5:30 - 8 pm in the Geier Room at Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church.**

Please join us to hear about last year's achievements and to plan our work for next year. You are invited to contribute your ideas for "stirring the pot" and breathing new energy into the life of the club.

As we prioritize our areas of advocacy, this meeting will be an opportunity for us to share our passion for favorite issues: safe and equitable neighborhoods, environmental justice, affordable public housing, criminal justice, public education, quality public health, income equality and economic stability, responsive government and spirited civic participation. We also want to get your ideas about how to plan and structure our public forums throughout the coming year.





## NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM - PRELIMINARY ANNUAL REPORT

Despite the cancellation and rescheduling of this year's event, the 2018 National Speaker Forum is on track to be one of the most successful in recent years. Final accounting is more complicated than usual due to the new venue and the cancellation - but thanks to the hard work of the National Speaker Forum committee, the generosity of Martha Raddatz and her agent (who reduced their fees by \$2,000 to cover our losses from the cancellation), the Seasongood Foundation grant, and the loyal support of our cosponsors, angels, underwriter, benefactors, patrons, sponsors, donors and members we expect to net more than \$10,000 from this year's event.

We are particularly grateful to Memorial Hall for their assistance in getting the word out about the cancellation, to Sr. Judy Tensing and PIP for the abundance and variety of food at the VIP reception, and to Brewster Rhoads for once again serving as our photographer.

~ Janet Buening, National Speaker Committee



**Front: Jane Anderson, Mary Wells, Martha Raddatz**

**Back: Sarah Gideonse, Alice Schneider, Barbara Myers, Carole Donnelly, Janet Buening, Nancy Walters, Marge Davis, Hera Reines, Kay Yount-Smith, Susan Noonan**

**Photo by Brewster Rhoads**

## 2018 Annual Meeting Financial Report

### Year Ending 5/31/18 (Actual)

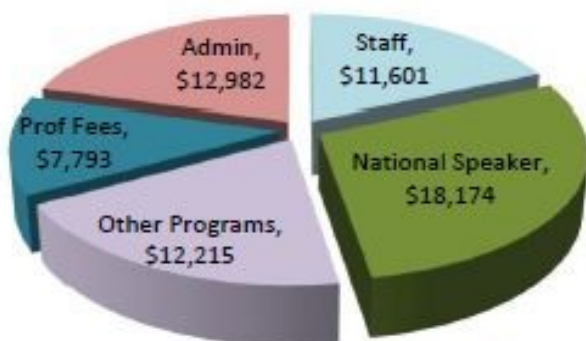


**\$ 77,145**

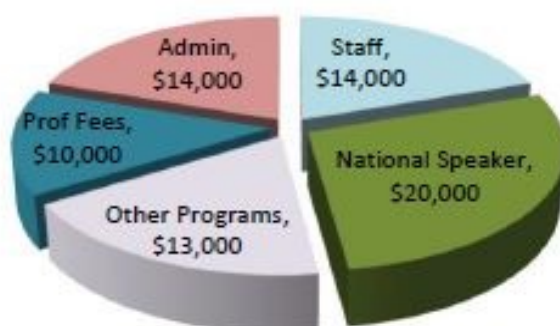
### Year Ending 5/31/19 (Draft Budget)



**\$ 67,000**



**\$ 62,765**



**\$ 71,000**

#### Programs

|                                |        | Income    | Expenses  | Net       |
|--------------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| National Speaker.....          | May-18 | \$ 31,760 | \$ 18,174 | \$ 13,586 |
| Seasongood Awards Luncheon.... | May-18 | \$ 4,622  | \$ 5,590  | \$ (968)  |
| Feist-Tea Luncheon.....        | Dec-17 | \$ 2,720  | \$ 3,068  | \$ (348)  |
| Status of Women Expo.....      | Jul-17 | \$ 550    | \$ 902    | \$ (352)  |

#### Continuing Funds

|                               | 5/31/17<br>Balance | Income | Expenses | 5/31/18<br>Balance |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|--------------------|
| Thriving Cincinnati Fund..... | \$ 9,792           | \$ -   | \$ 1,085 | \$ 8,707           |
| CAAG Tutoring Fund.....       | \$ 5,643           | \$ 500 | \$ 804   | \$ 5,339           |

*For those interested, more financial details, including our annual IRS Form 990, are available upon request.*





## SEASONGOOD LUNCHEON - ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2018

The Annual Seasongood Luncheon is held every year to honor the member of a true pioneer in the Woman's City Club and in Cincinnati history, **Agnes Seasongood**. She was a champion for women and the disenfranchised in Cincinnati, improving jail conditions and becoming a founding member of Talbert House. Her bequest to the WCC in 1982 supported the club's weekly forums with local and non-local informative speakers for years. After the last disbursement of the bequest, the club initiated an annual spring luncheon in her honor.

Seasongood is one of those special programs that leaves everyone attending with a reason to feel good! We highlight a local woman who is a "star" in the community – and often the first female in her position. This year, our speaker **D. Lynn Meyers** talked about her personal and professional progression and how she has taken the Ensemble Theatre to a level no one imagined (except her!)



The Annual Education Awards, spearheaded by **Beverly Thomas**, **Ann Skove** and **Sharon McCreary** were made even more exciting because of a personal contribution by Beverly in honor of her late husband **Michael Ramundo** to increase the awards from three to five of \$1,000.00 each. The five female graduating seniors who were chosen for their inspiring essays on the importance of civic engagement were **Jeda Carter**, Purcell Marian; **Madison Clark**, Bellevue; **Xiyanna Kellogg**, Schroder; **Rajah Shepard**, Roger Bacon; **Sydney Westerbeck**, Fairfield. We wish them all continued success – they are a true inspiration!

Seasongood Committee Members in 2018: **Marge Davis**, **Janet Buening**, **Anne Fierst**, **Vicky Motch**, **Beverly Thomas**, **Sharon McCreary**, **Ann Skove**, **Leslie Spencer**, **Susan Noonan**.

~ Susan Noonan, Chair Seasongood Committee



Xiyanna Kellogg, Jeda Carter, Madison Clark, Rajah Shepard, Sydney Westerbeck

Photo by Harriet Kaufman

## FEIST-TEA - ANNUAL COMMITTEE REPORT 2018

Nearly 90 people attended the Feist-Tea celebration at Kennedy Arts Center Annex on Sunday, December 3, 2017. *Venice on Vine* catered the refreshments , which were nicely presented and tasty.

This occasion offers us an opportunity to come together to celebrate our work and honor the women we admire. It is by following their example that we find the courage and the inspiration to continue our work.

This year we honored **Marge Davis, Jan Michele Lemon Kearney, Melissa Rowland, and Rina Saperstein.**

We appreciate your generous contributions, which enable us to continue to fulfill our distinctive role in the city, a mission established now over a century ago. The income from the event was **\$2720** (down from the previous year) and expenses were **\$1620** (up from previous year), giving a profit of **\$1100**.

Many thanks to Committee members – **Jeff Dey, Joy Haupt, Nina Tolley, Helen O’Neal, Marge Davis, and Beverly Thomas** – for organizing this event.

~ Alice Schneider, Chair



Rina Saperstain, Nina Tolley, Shannon Isaacs, Melissa Rowland, Jan Michele Lemon Kearney, Helen O’Neal, Marge Davis, Nancy Lu Walters, Susan Noonan, Sarah Gideonse

Photo by Harriet Kaufman

## PUBLIC FORUMS - ANNUAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE REPORT 2017-2018

The year 2018 presented many opportunities for interesting, relevant programs because of all that is going on in the world! WCC prides itself on educating the public on important and timely issues. All programs are free and open to the public.

Starting in September 2018, WCC collaborated with the Rookwood Groups for two interactive “*Conversations with Candidates*” Programs and a Cincinnati Public Schools board candidate program in keeping with our goal of informing the public about candidate platforms and giving them an opportunity to interact on a small group basis.

Our first regular Public Forum, October 26<sup>th</sup>, “*The Intersection Between Poverty and the Environment*,” presented panelists **Heather Taylor-Meisle**, Director of the Ohio Environmental Council; **Cathy Bailey**, Director of Greater Cincinnati Waterworks; **Laura Brunner**, CEO Greater Cincinnati Redevelopment Authority; **Donna Jones**, Price Hill activist. Five organizations co-sponsored the forum.

On November 17, the Program Committee and *Thriving Cincinnati* – WCC Club’s Initiative on equity and fairness – presented the first of a two-part series of programs called “*Win-Win Strategies for the Employer and Employee*.” **Mardia Shands**, Senior HR Director, Miami Gaming, and two of her “second chance” employees talked about their journey from “surviving to thriving” with **Brennan Grayson** of CIWC facilitating. The second in the series on Nehemiah Manufacturing; an innovative manufacturing company that hires all returning citizens and people with addiction issues took place on January 26, 2018.

On January 17, WCC collaborated with IJPC, CIWC, YES and the First Unitarian Church and highlighted our DACA students: “*More Than a Dream: Dream Act 2018*”. Restoring and enhancing the DAC Initiative is not only a matter of justice, but a great benefit to our economy, community and country.

On February 27<sup>th</sup>, our public forum was “*CLEAN SLATE: Wiping Out Criminal Justice-Related Barriers to Employment*.” The two panlists – **Sasha Naiman**, Deputy Director of Ohio Justice Policy Center and **Tyra Patterson**, a woman who spent 23 years in prison for a crime she did not commit – enlightened us on their mission to reduce the prison population, help people with criminal records become full and functioning members of the community, and help people in prison to become better able to function in the community.



In March, we held a memorable arts program with **Joan Hock**, Coordinator of “*Memories in the Making*,” an Alzheimer’s art program she manages and **Arlene DeSilva** speaking on her Music and Wellness program – with instruments for us all to play! Both programs have enormous positive effects on seniors.

In May, our public forum, “*Common Sense Solutions to Gun Violence*,” was planned around the terrifying school shooting in Parkland, Florida. Our own WCC member, **Ethel Guttenberg**, lost her granddaughter in the shooting. To keep this issue in the forefront, WCC immediately planned a program, by inviting *Moms Demand Action* Ohio Chapter and *Students Demand Action*. Panelists were **Michele Mueller**, **Ethel Guttenberg**, and **Rasleen Krupp** of Wyoming HS and **Josh St. Pierre** of UC. – all inspiring speakers. This may have been the most timely of our issue programs this year.

~ VP Program Susan Noonan



## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT - ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018



Woman's City Club's civic engagement projects bring our members and the community together to enact our values: Collaboration - Citizen Empowerment – Civic Literacy – Equity and Justice – Children and Youth on Positive Trajectories – A Thriving City of the Future.

These projects are implemented through four Action Groups – Catalyst for Achievement Action Group (CAAG), Environmental Action Group, Status of Women Action Group, and Thriving Cincinnati – which continue to evolve in their focus as they adapt to changing circumstances. (See separate reports on following pages.)

An Action Summit was held in July 2017 to identify and prioritize a set of specific, actionable, and timely projects for the immediate future. The plan was to form a set of member-led Task Forces or Working Groups chartered by the Board to strengthen our impact, expand our network, and foster

dialogue with public officials and local experts. While this is a work in progress, three initial Working Groups were proposed:

An Environmental Working Group was chartered as an actionable effort to work with a city-wide coalition to lobby Council to create a policy for reducing single-use plastic bags in Cincinnati. WCC's Board endorsed the coalition's proposal to City Council. The proposal was included in the Green Cincinnati Plan but remains to be implemented as policy.

A Woman's Leadership Workshop was proposed to encourage women to run for office.

A project to investigate local initiatives that prepare individuals to confront barriers to employment was incorporated into the work of *Thriving Cincinnati*. Two forums were held this year to highlight businesses that do well by doing good. (See Program Report.).

Woman's City Club is also a founding and lead member of the Rookwood Group, "a collaborative effort of non-profit civic organizations committed to working together to improve citizen engagement in our city and region." The group meets quarterly. Participating organizations include Woman's City Club, League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area, Cincinnati Association, Citizens for Civic Renewal, Applied Information Resources (AIR, Inc.), Food Policy Network, NAACP Urban League of Greater Southwest Ohio/ Community Policy Partnering Center. In the Fall of 2017, we coordinated a series of "Conversations with Candidates" events including one for school board and three for City Council.

By taking courageous stands as a Club on issues that are congruent with our values, WCC provides strong civic leadership in the Greater Cincinnati area. WCC endorsed the following electoral/ legislative issues:

In November 2017, WCC endorsed four Hamilton County Ballot Issues: Issue 3 - Hamilton County Mental Health Services Levy Renewal; Issue 4 - Hamilton County Health and Hospitalization Levy Renewal; Issue 5 - Hamilton County Senior Services Levy and ISSUE 24 - Cincinnati Public Schools Levy Renewal. All passed.

In May 2018, WCC endorsed two Hamilton County Ballot Issues: Issue 2 - Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden Tax Levy Renewal and Issue 3 - Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton Co. Additional Tax Levy. Both passed.

~ Rina Saperstein, VP Civic Engagement



## CATALYST FOR ACHIEVEMENT ACTION GROUP - REPORT 2017-2018

Once again Woman's City Club has made a significant impact Improving the lives of children and their communities, through its financial and volunteer support of kindergarten tutoring in low income settings.

WCC volunteers continued to join volunteers from other community organizations to tutor individual children throughout the year and help them learn to read, write simple words, expand their vocabularies, and comprehend simple stories, so they can become good readers by fourth grade — a strong predictor of their staying in school. The tutors follow the highly effective Making Sense of Language Arts curriculum developed by **Linda Wihl**, who also leads the program. Woman's City Club members **Beverly Thomas, Dee Shaffer, Fran Turner, Harriet Kaufman, Linda Wihl**, and **Sarah Gideonse** tutored at Winton Hills Academy in the in-school Thursday kindergarten tutoring program or in the Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday afterschool program.



All 21 of the children ended the year with average to well above average language arts skills. 16 students made significant (a least one standard deviation) to extremely significant (4.4 standard deviations) improvement throughout the school year! Though the other six did not show statistically significant improvement the fact that they maintained average to well above average language arts skills throughout kindergarten is significant! The test is age-based, and children have to continue to grow at an age when new skills and abilities are required, to maintain their rating.

Special thanks to **Harriet Kaufman** for assisting with testing three times a year and for serving on the *Making Sense of Language Arts* board along with other WCC members **Carole Pitzer** and **Linda Wihl**. WCC members who belong to the First Unitarian Church also tutor at South Avondale, using the *Making Sense of Language Arts* curriculum and making a difference in the lives of children as well.

CAAG organized two "Gatherings for Good," both held at lunchtime at Venice on Vine, a restaurant and job training program in Over-the-Rhine. In August we collected school supplies for students at Rothenberg Preparatory Academy. During the holidays people donated Christmas presents to the Contact Center to sell at a modest price.

In the fall of 2017 we participated as part of a coalition of civic organizations led by the League of Women Voters Education Committee to plan and present an interactive forum for 13 Cincinnati Public Schools school board candidates. The public and candidates met together in a series of small group conversations around challenging policy issues. "Everybody listened; everybody learned."

~ Sarah Gideonse, Co-Chair CAAG

# ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP - REPORT 2017-2018



The goal for the Environmental Action Group has been to advocate on issues of environmental justice, build community sustainability, and elevate eco-awareness through community conversations. We formed a WCC Working Group to mount a city-wide campaign to legislate for policies that regulate the use of plastic bags in Cincinnati. The Working Group also collaborated with the League to organize a public update on the Metropolitan Sewer District. **Lynn Hamamoto** and **Jeanne Nightingale** worked with the Brueggeman Center to bring world-renowned **Dr. Vandana Shiva** to Cincinnati as a speaker for Earth Day. With special thanks to **Mary Gerson**, we contribute Green Tips to each issue of the WCC Bulletin, and we encourage Woman's City Club to live its values with respect to sustainable living.

In the past five years we have convened a monthly series of public discussions with speakers and documentaries that address environmental justice issues due to climate warming: *Changing CO<sub>2</sub>urse: Local Solutions to Global Crisis*. Co-sponsors include the League of Women Voters, Miami Group Sierra Club, the Citizens' Climate Lobby, Our Harvest Cooperative, Apple Street Market, Groundworks, Green Umbrella, Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center, Pachamama, and Green Sanctuary Partners of St. John's UU Church.

In this series, we have learned about the human face of climate justice; local efforts to heal our broken food system; programs to deliver healthy food to our schools; ways to protect Cincinnati's vulnerable tree canopy; the economic clash between fossil fuel industry and renewable initiatives, and many other critical environmental justice issues. Programs for *Changing Course* this past year:

**June 2017:** Update on the [Green Cincinnati Plan](#) with Ollie Krone, Sustainability Coordinator for Cincinnati.

**July 2017:** Update with Gerald Checco, Cincinnati's Director of the Metropolitan Sewer District: *Why Do We Have Flooding and Sewer Backup: And Why is This Going to Get Only Worse in Our Region?*

**August 2017:** WCC sponsored a carpool to see Al Gore's *An Inconvenient Sequel: Truth to Power* – an urgent call to overcome the perils of climate change with human ingenuity and passion.

**September 2017:** Screening of *The Anthropocene*. Humans have become a force of nature. But are we an intelligent force

**October 2017:** Screening of *The Salt of the Earth*, Brazilian Photographer Sebastião Salgado is artistic witness to major events of recent history due to climate warming – world conflict, starvation and exodus.

**November 2017:** Launch of Cincinnati's campaign to regulate the use of single-use plastic bags with a screening of *A Plastic Ocean*, a compelling film about the consequences of our disposable life style.

**January 2017:** Community screening of *Divest: The Climate Movement on Tour* chronicling 350.org's international campaign to divest from the fossil fuel industry.

**February 2018:** *Cincinnati LEEDs the Nation*. Award-winning filmmaker and former councilwoman, Laure Quinlivan presents her PBS documentary celebrating America's first Net Zero Energy police station and its success in District #3 as a model for community engagement

**March 2018:** *The Intimate Realities of Water* produced by UC professors, Adrian Parr, Jon and Sean Hughes, the first in a series on the world crisis of clean drinking water and its disproportionate impact on low income communities.

**April 2018:** *SEED: The Untold Story* - PBS award-winning documentary about the David and Goliath battle to defend the future of our food, the loss of biodiversity and the indigenous seed-saving culture

**May 2018:** *Before the Flood*, a documentary produced by Leonard DeCaprio to encourage citizens to use their collective power to make the transition to a more sustainable society.

~ Jeanne Nightingale, Co-Chair Environmental Action Group

## THRIVING CINCINNATI - ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018



# Thriving CINCINNATI

Several years ago, *Thriving Cincinnati* was an idea spawned from conversations with **Louise Spiegel** about the plight of young black men in our city. We generalized that to include children and families living in poverty and created a website we hoped would become a clearinghouse to:

- 1) Gather information
- 2) Exchange best practices
- 3) Create and Collaborate on programs working toward self-sufficiency and decreasing poverty.

An impressive website was developed. We called it an “invitation and a service” so that individuals and groups addressing income inadequacy can find one another. We solicited partners from all five of the entities we determined are intertwined and must be working together for a successful community to exist: employers, non-profits, residents, public policy makers, and funders. We held several gatherings “connecting people and agencies” each year. It has been rewarding and many agencies have “discovered” something new about each other at the gatherings.

The website has not become a clearinghouse in the sense we hoped; consequently the committee is working on an evolving vision of the website

and the concept of *Thriving Cincinnati*.

This coming year, our gatherings will be looking at the plight of Louise Spiegel’s original vision – programs, internships, technical training and anything that exists to help young black men and women succeed – moving from “surviving to thriving.” The website will not be just about income inadequacy, nor will it be called a clearinghouse. Watch for a new refreshed Thriving Cincinnati initiative coming in the fall!

~ Chair, Susan Noonan



Yolanda Miller

Photo by Harriet Kaufman



Susan Noonan watches a Nehemiah Industries employee high-five Ursula Bess. Photo by Harriet Kaufman



## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE - 2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

The primary focus of the Membership Committee is to attract new members and friends who support our mission as well as encourage those who are already members to share their interests and skills as participants in the life and civic activities of our organization.

Over the past three years, the committee has sponsored a series of “City Conversations,” convening informal members gatherings and providing opportunities for them to become better acquainted while sharing their knowledge and opinions on issues of common concern. More often than not we invited an outside facilitator to present factual information or viewpoints under consideration as we did when **Bill Muse** presented on “Climate Choices: How Should We Meet the Challenges of a Warming Planet?” in November. Other formats involved a video or role-play to stimulate conversation and interaction.

As we look forward to the coming program year, the committee will substitute a somewhat different format with an eye towards orienting and involving new and younger (ACT ONE) members in interactive dialog with longer-time members. We held two of these in September and May. The committee is planning to continue this approach with a series of quarterly meetings. Our hope is to further strengthen member engagement and organizational focus.

At this time last year, our membership was at 216. Our total membership includes:

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Life members         | 21                   |
| Sustaining members   | 17                   |
| Household members    | 10                   |
| BASIC (regular dues) | 135                  |
| Pay-What-You-Can     | 4                    |
| Free                 | 30 (ACT ONE members) |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>217</b>           |

New Members to-Date..... 47

The committee, as part of the ongoing sustainability of the organization, seeks to build on our membership and helps to support the further engagement by current members. ***We need your help*** in doing this and hope that you might join our committee in the coming year and participate in our member engagement meetings.

~ Jeff Dey and Joy Haupt, Co-chairs of Membership



## **ACT ONE Annual Report 2017-2018**

To entice new young members to join us in our work, WCC's Membership Committee collaborates with the League of Women Voters to sponsor the ACT ONE program.

Our two organizations offer a two-year complimentary membership to women and men under 35. Our youngest members are invited to contribute their fresh new ideas as they themselves gain access to over two centuries of civic leadership experience. Together we have the opportunity to network across the generations of men and women committed to educating, empowering, and engaging citizens in the collective effort to improve the lives of all Cincinnatians.

We are proud to welcome 30 new members to the 2017-2019 class of ACT ONE:

**Amber Bailey, Jenn Bakes, Courtney Bell, Jenny Burger, Amanda Carleski, Margaret Castro, Kathleen Colley, Jessica Daniels, Rebecca Elliot, Kaycie Gardner, Mary Kate Genis, Angelica Hardee, Taylor Hoffman, Abigail Lopez, Ashley Mann-Jarosi, Anwar Mhajne, Lauren Miller, Jonathan Moore, Carolyn Noe, Tanaja Paprotny, Sarah Woiteshek Pietzuch, Samantha Rhodes, Jamie Stinson, Molly Swaidan, Abigail Lopez, Erin Saul, Michelle Scaglione-Lett, Sarah Shepherd, Jelena Vicic, Emma Rose Wilhelmus.**

The civic interests of these new young members vary widely from preschool tutoring, equitable housing, and women's leadership training to fair elections, policy making, Black Lives Matter, and Gun Violence. They are eager to become involved. We invite all seasoned WCC members, including ACT ONE alums, to serve as mentors to help engage our new ACT ONE members in the work of both organizations. Please contact one of us so we can match your interests. New ACT ONE members will be notified about a July meet-up.

~ ACT ONE Steering Group: Melissa Rowland, Rebecca Elliot,  
Susan Steele, Jeanne Nightingale

## **Communications Committee**

### **2017-2018 Annual Report**

Members: Sarah Gideonse, chair; Jeanne Nightingale, secretary and Act One coordinator; Jo-Ann Albers; Barbara Elleman; Susan Noonan; Melissa Rowland; Alice Schneider, and Janet Walsh.

The purpose of the committee is to ensure effective internal and external communications, to enhance the Club's profile, and to provide a public platform for the civic voice. Responsibilities include informing members, collaborators, and the public about WCC events and projects through the WCC website, the monthly Bulletin, email, social media, and news from our network, and through publicity about the Club.

Style standards for all publications are a goal. The major accomplishment this year was the refresh of the Club website, making it more inviting and accessible and also updating content. It is now set up for mobile devices, in response to our potential audience's greater use to access information and thus bringing the website into the 21st Century! Jeanne Nightingale took the lead on the redesign, in consultation with the committee, and worked closely with our web designer.

The Bulletin is now published most months, with updates – flyers, announcements, and so forth -- sent out weekly by the office. Bulletin archives are available on our website. The Bulletin and updates include selected announcements of events held by collaborating organizations. These communications go out by email to our large database of members, collaborators, public officials, and many others in the community who have shown interest in WCC's work. Jeanne Nightingale has solicited articles and other information, written articles, and laid out a mock up; Sarah Gideonse and Jo Ann Albers copy edit and proofread. Jo Ann interviews and writes an article about a member each month. Anne Skove prepares the Bulletin for publication and distributes it.

The committee worked with the Program, Thriving Cincinnati, and National Speaker Committees, to publicize their events through press releases, flyers, and for the National Speaker, a radio ad. Local television stations advertised and covered some of our events and sought us out for interviews.

WCC continues to increase its presence on social media about our work and relevant topics with postings on WCC's Facebook page, LinkedIn, and Twitter through the efforts of Alice Schneider, Rina Saperstein, and Anne Skove. Our Facebook page now has 616 followers, and 207 people are following us on Twitter. CJ Pierce of the Thriving Cincinnati project maintains a vibrant Facebook page on economic self-sufficiency and related topics.

Next year we need to explore ways to further engage the media in publicizing our events and the work



## WOMAN'S CITY CLUB BOOK CLUB - REPORT 2017-2018

The Book Club is a discussion group open to all members and friends seeking stimulating conversation around a book and the issues and ideas it raises. The "Club" does not have an established membership, and people may join a discussion at any time. Between six and 10 people meet every other month on a third Saturday at 10 pm at a member's home. At each meeting those present select the next book to discuss.

We read both fiction and non-fiction that focus on important public issues reflecting WCC's values. Announcements about the upcoming book selection and location appear in the Bulletin and weekly updates.

This year we read a very diverse group of books, listed below). The brief descriptions hardly do justice to the depth and richness of each book.

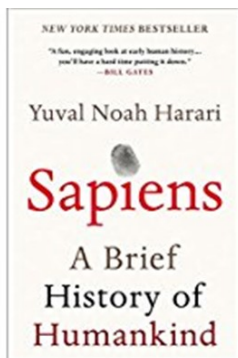
September 2017 -- *The Color of Law – A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America* by Richard Rothstein (a horrific history of laws that prevented blacks for buying homes and gaining equity and the terrible consequence for black families).

November 2017 – *Home Fire: a Novel* by Kamila Shamsie (a Muslim family tries to survive discriminatory views in England)

January 2018 -- *Sing, Unburied, Sing: a Novel* by Jesmyn Ward (a story of a black family in a racist South with magical overtones)

March 2018 – *Women and Power* by Mary Beard (historical perspective on the patriarchy) and *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates (a searing memoir of a young man in a racist society)

May 2018 – *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann (violent treatment of Native Americans in the 1920s).



### NEXT WOMAN'S CITY CLUB BOOK DISCUSSION

All members and friends are welcome.

### **Sapiens A brief history of humankind**

**By Yuval Noah Harari**

**10 am, Saturday, July 21, 2018**

**Home of Beth Sullebarger**

**1080 Morse Avenue, Glendale**

For directions and to RSVP, call 513-703-0877. Or email her at [Sullebarger@fuse.net](mailto:Sullebarger@fuse.net).

From a renowned historian comes a groundbreaking narrative of humanity's creation and evolution. Dr. Yuval Noah Harari begins about 70,000 years ago with the appearance of modern cognition. From examining the role evolving humans have played in the global ecosystem to charting the rise of empires, *Sapiens* integrates history and science to reconsider accepted narratives, connect past developments with contemporary concerns, and examine specific events within the context of larger ideas. (adapted from Amazon write-up)

Much may surprise, even boggle the imagination, or arouse disagreement; much will evoke discussion!

The book is available at the library and in paperback. Because the book has over 400 pages and a plethora of information and insights, we have decided to take two book club meetings to discuss it. The next meeting date will be September 22, location to be announced.

## Changing CO<sub>2</sub>urse: Local Solutions to a Global Crisis

Saturday, JUNE 23 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.  
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

### How to Let Go of the World and Love All The Things Climate Can't Change

The third film in a trilogy from Oscar nominated and Emmy -  
winning director Josh Fox (Gasland and Gasland Part II)

- Postfilm community discussion -

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Saturday, JULY 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.  
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

### TIME TO CHOOSE

Film leaves audiences understanding not only what is wrong, but what can to be done to fix this global threat. Academy Award-Winning documentary filmmaker Charles Ferguson explores the comprehensive scope of the climate change crisis and examines the power of solutions already available. An in-depth look at the remarkable people working to save our planet.

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Saturday, AUGUST 25 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.  
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

### ONE STRANGE ROCK

First in a 10-part cinematic event series that explores the fragility and wonder of planet Earth -- one of the most peculiar, unique places in the universe. Episodes delve into monumental events such as genesis, cosmic violence, human intelligence and alien life, oxygen, and survival vs. destruction.

- 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

**Thursday, June 21, 6-8 pm:** Annual Meeting. Mount Auburn Presbyterian Church, Geier Room.

**Saturday, June 23, 6:30-8:30 pm:** Changing Course: "How to Let Go of the World and Love All the Things Climate Can't Change." St John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton.

**Wednesday, June 27:** WCC office will be closed.

**Wednesday, July 4:** WCC office will be closed.

**Saturday, July 21, 6:30-8:30 pm:** Changing Course: "Time to Choose." St John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton.

**Saturday, August 25, 6:30-8:30 pm:** Changing Course: "One Strange Rock." St John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton.

**Friday, September 28, 11:30 am-1:00 pm:** Womens' Economic, Physical, and Mental Health Expo. Fountain Square.



### 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/).



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The Monthly *e-Bulletin* keeps us connected with our membership, our network and our community. The next issue will appear on August 1.

*Managing Editors: Jeanne Nightingale, Sarah Gideonse, Jo-Ann Albers, and Anne Skove*