

July 2013

*Lighting
the way
since 1915*

July
GREEN
TIPS
From
Mary
Gerson



GREEN TIPS FOR SUMMER:

- -Be sure to frequent your local farmers markets. They have less of a carbon footprint on your fruits and veggies.
- -Water early in the morning to minimize evaporation.
- -Healthy lawns will keep more water out of the sewer system.
- -Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Longer grass retains water better.

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

~ Mary Gerson

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The Bulletin

Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati



ANNUAL JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2013



*Club historian, Rachel Powell
gave the featured presentation.*

Marking the end of our fiscal year 2012-2013, the membership of Woman's City Club gathered in the Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church Geier Room. We celebrated the year's accomplishments and shared ideas as we approach our 100th anniversary in 2015. Beyond celebration, we see this Centennial as an opportunity to shape a vision for WCC as it moves into its second century. It is a time to encourage future generations to carry on the robust history of the Club's work in the City.

In her welcoming remarks, outgoing President Jeanne Nightingale reported that the Club has rallied nicely since its setback a few years back. After setting new actionable goals, updating bylaws and policies, and tightening the ship, we have recovered our feisty spirit, our membership is back up, and our books have begun to balance.



*Club Camaraderie: Marge Davis with Cassandra Barham and Helen O'Neal;
and Kathy Shahani with Joy Haupt. Courtesy Ruth Cronenberg.*



After thanking outgoing members of the Board, Cassandra Barham and Deb Milavec, Jeanne introduced the incoming Board members and officers. Elected to the Board for the next three years are Joni Baker, Ruth Cronenberg, Lori Nuckolls, Steph Stoller, and Susan Noonan.

Continued on page 2

Annual Meeting continued from page 1

Susan will serve as the Club's president in 2013-14; Steph will serve as Board Secretary; Nancy Walters will be our new Treasurer; Barbara Elleman the new VP for Administration. Ruth and Sarah Gideonse will be the new Board Representatives to the Nominating Committee. Beth Sullebarger and Lori Nuckolls will double as Co-VPs for Program and Co-Chairs of the Centennial Committee; as outgoing president, Jeanne will serve one more year on the Board and as VP for Civic Engagement.

After hearing brief reports reviewing progress on our six primary goals – effective governance, financial stability, growing membership, compelling civic programs, active civic engagement, and club visibility – we listened to a presentation of our new Club historian, Rachel Powell. Rachel encouraged members to help her collect and compile stories this summer for inclusion in the second volume of WCC's history, *Renewed Strength, Renewed Identity: The Woman's City Club Continues to Light the Way, 1965 – Present*.

The evening closed with break-out discussions on three topics: program suggestions with a focus on Centennial themes; fundraising ideas to support Club operations and Centennial planning; proposals for regular membership meetings and forming a Junior Membership program. These will serve as a trove for summer planning.

Jeanne Nightingale



*President Susan Noonan's contribution –delicious and timely!
Courtesy Ruth Cronenberg*



*Carole Donnelly, co-chair of National Speaker Committee and
Lori Nuckolls, co-chair of Program and Centennial Committees.
Courtesy Ruth Cronenberg*



*Small group
discussion
on recruiting
and
maintaining
membership.
Courtesy
Alice
Schneider.*



This is such a beautiful time of year. I write this first "letter from the President" sitting outside under a cloud free sky, listening to birds saying goodnight and a few frogs croaking. I hope you were all able to enjoy some peaceful outside time on this last day before the "official" start of summer.

Some organizations slow down for the summer months, but WCC remains as active as ever! Since our annual meeting many of us have been busy with the transition and helping me move into my new role as President of WCC during an important time for the Woman's City Club

WCC has just presented an inspiring and informative program on "The Right to Counsel in Civil Cases: Civil Gideon and Legal Services for the Poor" in

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

collaboration with other community organizations. See the news article on page 5 to learn more. Many thanks to Lori Nuckolls for her work in organizing this terrific event that drew a sizable audience from the community.

The Centennial Committee/Program Committee, under the very competent leadership of Beth Sullebarger and Lori Nuckolls, is planning an exciting program schedule for 2014 and 2015. It includes a celebratory 100th Anniversary Birthday Dinner on March 6th, 2015 – the actual date on which more than 200 women met, decided to create the "Woman's City Club" and adopted a Constitution. Please put the date on your calendars. We have started a Centennial Fund, and thank longtime supporter and member, Louise Spiegel, for donating the first \$5,000.00!

In the next two years, programs will commemorate various topics in our past history. Rachel Powell is working on the second volume of our history, entitled *Renewed Strength, Renewed Identity: The Woman's City Club Continues to Light the Way, 1965 – Present*. Scheduled to be finished by 2015, this centennial volume will be the focus of promotional presentations.

The Membership Committee, chaired by Mary Wells, will continue to hold monthly meetings for members and friends that take place on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, starting September 17, usually at the First Unitarian Church. These community conversations, patterned after Salons, will present timely topics to learn about and discuss.

The first full Board meeting with newly elected board members will be held July 3rd at 6 pm at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church. As always, these are open meetings and anyone interested is welcome.

One final date to put on your calendar – March 13, 2014 for our next National Speaker, Candy Crowley. Find more information on this topic in our next Bulletin.

I look forward to working with the wonderful women on the board and committees and each one of our members who all contribute something special to make the Woman's City Club what is today!

Sincerely,

Susan

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Chair of Status of Women Action Group (SWAG) –

Organizes and leads a group of members interested in women's issues. Includes working with members to research and recommend to the Board of Trustees, positions on issues before the voters, or emerging issues in the community and a plan for action and advocacy as appropriate. In recent years, SWAG has had a book club and helped develop a community collaboration around human trafficking. There is an interest in focusing on current issues affecting women, such as reproductive rights and pay equality.

Chair of the Hospitality Committee – leads a team that arranges refreshments for Club forums and salons.

Team sets up and cleans up. Refreshments may be solicited from members or purchased.



ANOTHER FASCINATING EVENING WITH MICHAEL CIOFFI AND THE CINCINNATI SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

For the third time, the Woman's City Club and the Cincinnati Shakespeare Company collaborated to present a lecture by Michael Cioffi followed by a performance—this May, William Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. Mr. Cioffi, a University of Cincinnati College of Law Adjunct Professor and a partner in the law firm of Blank Rome LLP, spoke before the play on the subject of "Measuring Law, Justice and Morality in *Measure for Measure*." Mr. Cioffi examined Shakespeare's paradoxical view of good and evil as he presents a tale of two lovers seeking justice and battling iniquity. By suggesting that Shakespeare argues that things are not always what they seem to be and that the government is not always moral and just and that sinners are not always evil, Mr. Cioffi portrays Shakespeare as a radical humanist of the Renaissance. The performance by the wonderful CSC of *Measure for Measure* bore out this analysis.



Mr. Cioffi has lectured on the topic of justice and the law both in the United States and internationally. The evening began with a wine and cheese reception sponsored by Blank Rome LLP and Monteverdi Tuscany (www.monteverdituscany.com).



In 2011, Mr. Cioffi presented his first lecture in conjunction with a performance of *A Man for All Seasons* by Robert Bolt. Mr. Cioffi's lecture was entitled "Strange Brew: Divine Law, Human Law and Presidential Politics." In 2012, Mr. Cioffi spoke on "Solving Shylock: The Reconciliation of Shakespeare as Anti-Semite and Enlightened Humanist" preceding a presentation of Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*.

~ Lori Nuckolls

WCC AT CINCINNATI PRIDE!

Woman's City Club collaborated with the League of Women Voters to make a joint first appearance at the Cincinnati Pride Festival on June 29. Three women who are members of both clubs spent the afternoon handing out cards, registering voters, signing up people who expressed an interest, and greeting old and new friends. The three were: Nancy Dawley, Melissa Currence, and Marty Harrington.



NEW WCC WEBSITE ON ITS WAY! (FINALLY)

Woman's City Club is revamping its website (<http://womancityclub.org>) to update and revitalize it. Our new web site helps us to better serve and communicate with our members, recruit new members, and solidify our organization's identity and

brand as we carry out our mission into the future.

This new website's fresh design allows us to post videos, photographs, and events in a more attractive way. It will have a contact page and a new member form for those who are considering joining. A

donate button will be added to every page. We will optimize our front page with key words so that women searching the web will find us. There will be a password protected page on which we can post board documents, the directory, and other members-only information.

The firm that is designing the website will train a few of us so we will be able to keep the information fresh and up to date.

Look for the rollout of the new website very soon.



Poor Americans face a multitude of legal problems such as spousal abuse, child custody, mortgage foreclosure, landlord tenant and consumer law disputes. While the right of the poor to a criminal lawyer is now well-established in the law, the poor have few if any rights to counsel in civil cases.

This problem was the focus of a highly informative forum that took place on June 18 at the Cincinnati Bar Association and organized by Lori Nuckolls, Co-VP for Programs. William Dowling, who chairs the Ohio State Bar Association Committee on Access to Justice Committee,

advocated expanding the right to counsel to individuals involved in civil litigation, particularly when basic human needs such as safety, shelter, and sustenance are at issue. Dowling argued that their situations are comparable to criminal defendants faced with loss of freedom and prison, guaranteed to counsel through the *Gideon* decision. Failure to pay child support or alimony, a civil court issue, can actually end in a prison sentence.

While defendants in a few types of civil cases, such as those involving juveniles and termination of parental rights, are guaranteed lawyers, most are not. Funds to support such counsel are sparse (even less since the recession) and are allocated on a case by case basis and inconsistently

across jurisdictions.

Mary Asbury, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Greater Cincinnati, reported the priorities that guide its acceptance of civil cases. The highest priority is people who are homeless or face the loss of a home. Legal Aid helps with family law cases because of their technicality and gives priority to victims of domestic violence. Resources are available for people who need help in getting out of poverty, in removing barriers to getting and keep jobs, such as child custody issues, creditors, and felony expungement. Legal Aid also helps school children in school discipline situations.

What can be done? Legal groups are advocating for

procedural reform – simplification of court proceedings to attract pro bono counsel and reducing barriers to using retired lawyers and paraprofessionals. Asbury and Dowling urge legislation to guarantee counsel in civil cases where basic human needs are at stake, as well funding increases. Lori will serve as liaison to the speakers to develop an advocacy strategy.

The forum was co-sponsored by the Cincinnati Bar Association, Ohio Justice and Policy Center, BRIDGES for a Just Community, the League of Women Voters and Housing Opportunities Made Equal. Their publicity helped to assure excellent attendance.



WCC CENTENNIAL CALL FOR STORIES AND DOCUMENTS!

Woman's City Club has commissioned a second volume of its history in celebration of our approaching Centennial anniversary. We want to include all our voices and documents in this record of the Club's history. So we are asking our members and others in the community to send in their personal stories, memories, photos, letters, journal accounts, documents, reports, programs, newspaper clippings, etc. related to their experience with Woman's City Club.

Bring your material into the office or email documents to Jeanne's email, j.nightingale@womancityclub.org. Jeanne acts as liaison between the membership and Rachel Powell, our Club historian.

Rachel will be doing a large part of her data gathering and research during these next summer months. She has been hard at work digging into our archives and analyzing our documents, and she will need your help this summer to fill in gaps in our ongoing story, especially where the archives are silent (early 1980s). If you have stories that are not written down, we are equipped to tape oral histories for compilation in a video archive. Please let us know if you have a WCC story to tell.

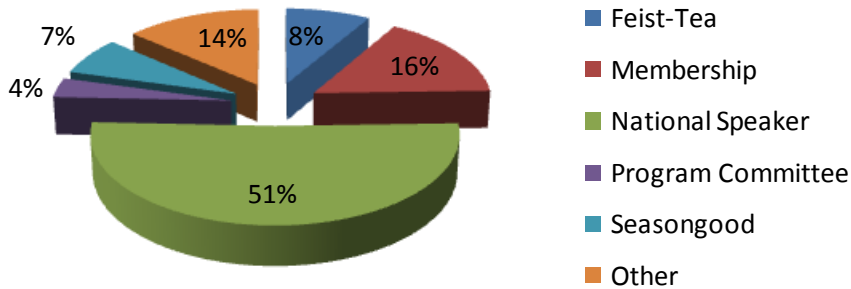
Rachel's focus will be on how the Club views itself and how the community views WCC. From her work so far, she sees WCC as a relevant force for change, especially true in the 60s, 70s and 80s, when the Club was at the

forefront of radical transformation in the city. She seeks to cover such themes as feminist activism (ERA, changing status of women as they enter the workforce, empowerment of women in poverty, etc.); race relations; international relations; coalitions and collaborative efforts; impact of Club on City policies; environmentalism.

We invite you too to join us summer to re-read Andrea Tuttle Kornbluh's *Lighting the Way*, the first volume of our history from 1915 to 1965. We want to identify themes from our early history worthy of sustaining in our next century. We will also be taping interviews this summer for a 20-minute documentary to be screened at our Centennial celebration.

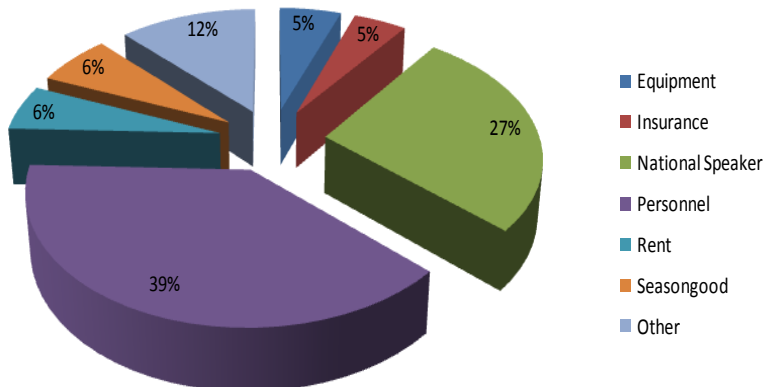
WOMAN'S CITY CLUB 2013-2014 INCOME & EXPENSE AT A GLANCE

INCOME



Feist-Tea	\$ 3,825.00
Membership	\$ 7,205.00
National Speaker	\$ 22,979.00
Program Committee	\$ 1,639.00
Seasongood	\$ 3,184.00
Other	\$ 6,117.52
TOTAL	\$ 44,949.52

EXPENSE



Equipment	\$ 2,471.65
Insurance	\$ 2,128.39
National Speaker	\$ 12,198.28
Personnel	\$ 17,588.51
Rent	\$ 2,617.23
Seasongood	\$ 2,982.77
Other	\$ 5,505.62
TOTAL	\$ 45,492.45

“Changing CO₂urse” Series Double Feature Movie Night *With the Kids*

St John's Church in Krohlfifer

SUNDAY, JULY 28 7:00-9:00 pm

Two films that delight adults and children alike:

Dirt! The Movie

is Inspired by William Bryant Logan's acclaimed book *Dirt: The Ecstatic Skin of the Earth*. The film takes a humorous and substantial look into the history and current state of the living organic matter that we come from and will later return to. Dirt!



The Movie will make you want to get dirty! Features the late Kenyan Peace Nobelaureate Wangari Maathai and Indian environmental activist and physicist Vandana Shiva.

The Story of Stuff

is a 20-minute animated documentary about the lifecycle of material goods from its extraction and sale to its use and disposal, all the stuff of our lives that affects communities here and abroad. The Story of Stuff exposes the connections

between a huge number of environmental and social issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world. Story and Screenplay by Annie Leonard.



**CO-SPONSORED BY WOMAN'S CITY CLUB AND ST JOHN'S UU CHURCH
(Green Sanctuary Committee)**

THE BULLETIN HAS A NEW MANAGING EDITOR

Sarah Gideonse is taking over the *Bulletin's* managing editor position from Jeanne Nightingale. WCC is greatly indebted to Jeanne for producing, with our office managers, an amazingly vibrant and informative Bulletin for the last three years! And Jeanne was president extraordinaire for the last two.

Sarah's job is to act as a clearing house for all submissions-- articles, notices, flyers, and photos--so please send them directly to her by the designated monthly deadlines. Sarah can be reached at s.gideonse@womanscityclub.org or telephone 513-871-6927. She will edit submissions and organize them on a single mockup document that she will then send to Marty to do the final layout.



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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. Committed to promoting diversity and inclusiveness, the organization reaches out to collaborate with other community organizations in the city and work toward shared goals. See www.womanscityclub.org for more information.

Calendar of WCC Events

Wednesday, July 3

WCC Board Meeting

6:30 pm
Mt. Auburn Presbyterian
Church, The Geier Room

Wednesday, July 10

Space Sharers' Lunch

12:00 noon
Mt. Auburn Presbyterian
Church, The Geier Room

Sunday, July 28

Changing CO₂urse: MOVIE NIGHT with the KIDS

12:00 noon
St John's UU Church, 320
Resor Ave.

Sunday, August 25

Changing CO₂urse: Sierra Club on local WATER issues

12:00 noon
St John's UU Church, 320
Resor Ave.

August—date TBA

WCC Board Retreat

August—date TBA

Centennial Committee Meeting

Call for Stories!

Send in your personal stories, memories, photos, letters, journal accounts, documents, newspaper clippings, annual reports, Bulletin articles, membership surveys, etc. We want to include many voices in this record of the Club's history in Cincinnati.



This e-Bulletin, together with the Weekly Updates and News from Our Network, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in August, Deadline for copy is July 19, 2013 (word limit 250 words).

Sarah Gideonse, Managing Editor.

Marty Harrington, Layout Editor.