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LWV ABC Annual Meeting via Zoom

Monday evening, April 11, 2022

Members -- Watch for your email invite with the meeting and packet links

Calling all members of LWV ABC to come celebrate the accomplishments of the past year and plan for another outstanding year!

6:00 pm -- Social time and game with prizes!

6:30 pm -- Business meeting with: Updates; Elections; Approval of Budget; Review of Past Year; Awards and Announcements; Planning Ahead: voter registration events, upcoming fall general elections and more – and Input from Members

Candidate Forums – Be Part of the Team!

As we reported last month, our Voter Service Committee is busy making plans for an ambitious schedule of candidate forums. We will need a full roster of moderators, question facilitators, and event planners to fulfill our schedule.

The **training opportunities** that we reported on last month from LWV Minnesota **to perform these duties** have been filled – however, **wait lists are being formed**.

--Read about the training here:

<https://www.lwvmn.org/voter-service-training>

--Then add your name to the wait list here: info@lwvmn.org

Not a Member Yet?

This would be a good time to become a member of this non-partisan political organization of adult and young adult volunteers who believe that our representative democracy needs citizens involved in public discussions. LWV ABC is active in most communities in Anoka County as well as Champlin and Dayton in Hennepin County.

Read more about LWV ABC on our website at:

<https://my.lwv.org/minnesota/anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area/about-league-women-voters-anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area>

You can join on-line, and we will be in touch to activate your membership:

<https://my.lwv.org/minnesota/anoka-blaine-coon-rapids-area/join-lwv-abc-or-renew-your-membership>.

Questions? Contact us at

lwvabc@gmail.com

Current Members – Have You Submitted Your Renewal Yet?

Our membership year ends in April for everyone who joined or renewed during 2021. [Renew your membership now by check](#) or PayPal. Our membership dues remain the same – Individual Membership \$60, Additional Household Members \$30 and Students \$10. If our dues are a financial hardship, simply chose Flexible Dues and pay what you can. Remember that student dues are available to students of any age who attend school full or part-time!



Celebrating Member Milestones

This year, 44 members received a Certification of Appreciation for their years of service with LWV ABC, ranging from 5 years to 65 years. Emeritus Board Member Geri Nelson has now served over 50 years, joining Zilla Way (65+ years) and Carol Bradley (50+ years) as Lifetime LWV members. Other members with lengthy service to LWV ABC and the residents of Anoka County and northern Hennepin county are Kay McCully with over 45 years, Jeorgette Knoll with over 35 years and Luanne Koskinen, Kathy Tingelstad and Mary Jo Truchon with over 30 years. For the full list, see our [Member Milestones webpage](#).

We would love to include pictures on the webpage! If you received a certificate, please send of a picture of yourself (with or without the certificate) to lwwabc@gmail.com.



We plan to continue honoring years of service in five year increments at every Annual Membership Meeting. Thanks to all our members for all your service to the residents of Anoka and northern Hennepin County.

Last Month's Program – Firearm Safety Update

If you missed last month's program, you can view it now and/or share it with others. Presenter, Marti Micks of LWV Golden Valley and Co-Chair of the Firearms Safety Update Committee for LWV, presented the results of **a survey of 20 questions submitted to 39 sheriffs and police chiefs across Minnesota to learn about the impact of firearms in our communities.** A very worthwhile program to view and consider.

Watch it here:

-On our LWV ABC website, www.lwabcmn.org , under *Spotlight on Issues*

-Or watch it on QCTV's website: http://reflectqctv.cablecast.tv/cablecastapi/embed?show_id=13122

In Memory of Carol Bradley

We are saddened to share the news of the passing of member Carol Bradley on March 29, 2022. Carol was an active member of LWV ABC for over 50 years and made many contributions to the work of our organization.

We will share more later on Carol and her many contributions outside of League too. But in the meantime, we share the words of fellow League member, Geri Nelson, who said that "Carol was the go-to smart, wise, energetic, hard-working League member who always seemed to know the answers to any questions. She mentored many of us younger members. May she rest in peace."

Our condolences to Carol's family and friends.



LWV ABC Board Retreat -- Planning for the New Year

Our business year runs from May 1, 2022 through April 30, 2023. To plan for the upcoming year, the 2022-23 LWV ABC Board will hold a retreat at the Johnsville Library on Monday, **April 25, from 11 am to 3 pm.** Anyone may attend. Please share ideas with board members and committee chairs for programs, speakers and making our league the best!

Participate in What's Happening at League of Women Voters Minnesota (LWV MN)

LWV MN Council is a statewide gathering of our leagues. It will be held **Saturday, April 30, 9:00 to 3:00 – via Zoom**. Several of our members will be attending, and we'd like to have you join us! Hear about the accomplishments of the past year and actions for a dynamic upcoming year.

--More info, including the **Agenda** and **Registration** (\$10) are here:

<https://www.lwvmn.org/council-2022>

--Let Gretchen know if you'd like to fill one of our 6 delegate positions, or are planning to attend as an observer -- via email to her at lwvabc@gmail.com – we still have openings!

Book and Film Discussions – Join us on Zoom!

Gather with LW ABC members and friends on **selected Wednesday evenings** to delve into conversations from the comfort of your home. Expand your knowledge on topics of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Stimulating conversations about good books and films on important topics – a great resource for connections with others! **All events at 7:00 pm**

Upcoming Films

April 6 – *Luce* (2019)

The story of a couple forced to reconsider their marriage and their family after an extremely disturbing essay written by their adopted son is brought to their attention by his teacher. **(Longer article follows on page 9 of this newsletter.)**

May 4 – Kuma Hina (2014)

Story of Hina Wong-Kalu, a transgender native Hawaiian teacher, or Kumu, who brings to life Hawaii's traditional embrace of Mahu - those who embody both male and female spirit, and were traditionally respected as caretakers, healers, and keepers of ancient traditions.

Upcoming Books:

April 20 – *White Rage-The Unspoken Truth of our Racial Divide* (2016)

By Carol Anderson, PH.D. -- Chapter 3, 4, 5 and Afterword which focus on desegregation, civil rights and the election of the first Black president.

(Longer article follows at the end of this newsletter)

May 18 – *This is What America Looks Like My Journey from Refugee to Congresswoman* (2020)

Ilhan Omar

For a book/film description and where to obtain: Link to the [calendar on our website](#):

Met Council's Livable Communities Program Explained at Spring CMAL Event

How Does the Livable Communities Grant Program Work? Is it Effective? Who Benefits? Which Cities Participate? How are the Grants Used?

Many cities in the metro area have received grants to support construction of multi-family housing that not only meets the needs of our growing communities, but provides a number of units that are affordable to residents based on their income according to Livable Communities Grant manager Tara Beard. Beard spoke at the virtual spring CMAL event on March 19, 2022 and answered questions.



Jennifer Faulkner, Community Development Director in Burnsville explained how Burnsville has used these grants to construct a number of mixed-use housing projects that provide housing as well as jobs.

QCTV partnered with CMAL to record the program and provide for viewing online. Links can be found on QCTV's website at the following link:

http://reflect-qctv.cablecast.tv/cablecastapi/embed?show_id=13139

What's happening at the Minnesota Capitol?

This year, LWVMN's legislative priorities are Democracy, Climate Change and Racial Justice. Hearings related to these issues are being monitored by LWV members who have joined LWVMN's Observer Corp.

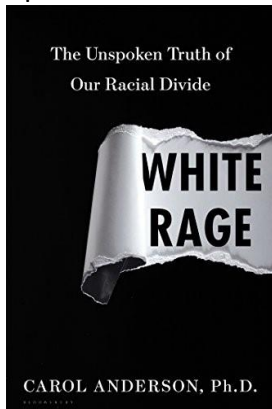


You can help advocate for these important issues by signing up for LWVMN Capitol Letter and Action Alerts. *Capitol Letters* will keep you informed about activities at the legislature. Action Alerts will not only notify you when contacting your legislators is critical but provide you with a quick way to send an email to your representatives.

If you are not receiving the *Capitol Letter* by email, [members can update your subscription preferences HERE](#) and [non-members can subscribe to the LWVMN Capitol Letter and Action Alerts HERE](#). You can also find links to all Capitol Letters on [our LWVMN Action and Advocacy webpage](#).

More Detail on upcoming LWV ABC Book and Film Club Selections

April LWV ABC Book Club



Join us on **Wednesday April 20** for the continued discussion on *White Rage - The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide* (2016) by Carol Anderson.

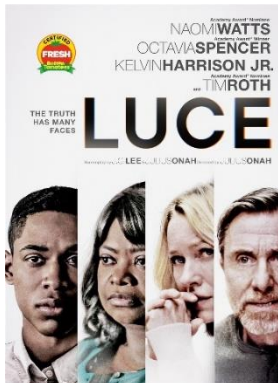
While most history books focus on markers of progress, Anderson, a Professor of African American Studies at Emory University, focuses on the aftermath and backlash against five instances of civil rights progress. In March, we had a lively discussion of Reconstruction and the Great Migration. In April, we will discuss the remainder of the book which focuses on the aftermath of *Brown v Board of Education* (Chapter 3), the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts (Chapter 4) and the election of the first Black president (Chapter 5).

Whether you agree or disagree with Anderson's theory that each advance in African American civil rights was followed by expressions of "white rage", Anderson's book provides an interesting perspective and discusses some lessor known aspects of American history.

See our [calendar](#) for the Zoom Link for this book discussion.

Looking for some interesting books to read? [Download a List of all past and upcoming LWV ABC Book Club Selections](#)

LWV ABC Film Discussion for April



Join on us April 6 for a discussion of the film *Luce* (2019).

Luce is a psychological thriller about the events after a model student and former boy soldier writes an essay about Pan-Africanist writer Frantz Fanon, who advocated violence to defeat colonization. While we try to unravel the events that follow, we see how implicit bias and stereotyping can lead to assumptions, not just on the part of all the characters, but also by the audience.

Watch *Luce* before the discussion on a DVD from the library or through [Kanopy](#), a free library streaming service. Not familiar with Kanopy? See our [Instructions to Sign Up for Kanopy with your Anoka County or Columbia Heights Library](#)

[Card](#). Find the zoom link for the discussion on our [calendar](#).

Get in touch with LWV ABC

Visit our public website:

www.lwvabcmn.org. If you need a refresher on accessing the Members Only section of the website, send an email to lwvabc@gmail.com. We will reply with the link for you to bookmark.

Check out the LWV ABC blog:

<https://www.lwvumrr.org/lwv-abc-blog>



We're on Facebook: Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook". **Instagram, too!**

Our monthly newsletter, *The Voter*: Members and other interested persons receive our newsletter by email in the early part of each month. Issues are also available on our LWV ABC website, www.lwvabcmn.org.