



**March 22, 2024**

## Letter From the President

Hello Leaguers,

Once again LWWH received the Sunshine Proclamation from the City of Hudson in recognition of the work we do to ensure compliance and best practices of Ohio's Sunshine Laws. Our League is comprised of very knowledgeable, interested citizens. We observe all public meetings and champion issues that are important to the public. Let's keep up the great work!

On March 9th, in spite of the rain, LWW Hudson and LWW Akron marched in the St. Patricks Day Parade while others gathered signatures for the **Citizens Not Politicians** petition.



Special THANK YOU to Hillary Sullivan and Barbara Bos who collected signatures; Kudos to Lorann Murphy who drove her festively decorated car in the parade; and Inge Orendt who, not only helped decorate Lorann's vehicle but marched (sometimes) and, of course, took lots of photos! *See photos below.*

I wanted to take a the opportunity to thank Mimi Becker for leading Facilitator Training and to all the members who attended. It was very interesting - and useful! We will be able to put our skills to the test at the Climate Sustainability workshop. It is now scheduled for **Thursday, April 18, 7:00pm** at the High School Media Center. We need lots of volunteers.

*Please read below for more upcoming LWWH events!*

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## THINGS TO DO & PLACES TO BE!

Next Board Meeting: Monday, April 1, 7pm at 5230 Knollshire Drive. All are welcome.

Thursday, April 18th at 7pm, at Hudson High School, Media Center, the Climate Sustainability Committee will present a Roundtable, "Energy in the Home" where they will focus on what individuals can do in their home to reduce their carbon footprint.

Thursday, May 9th 6:30 is the Annual Meeting. Please plan to attend. We need your input and votes for for all the new, cool stuff on the horizon! (See below.)

National Convention in Washington DC June 27 - 30, 2024. LWVH can send two voting members but all members can attend. Let me know if you want to go.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Assist with multiple tasks at the Climate Roundtable on April 18th. We will assign duties. Look for a Signup genius link here soon.
- Assist in organizing the Annual Member Meeting on May 9th.

## Akron's St. Patrick's Day Parade







**Akron's St. Patrick's Day Parade March 9, 2024** *Left:* Sherry McMillen (LWVAA) Phil, and Lorann Murphy. *Top:* Sherrie Weitzenhof (LWVAA) and Hillary Sullivan; *Bottom Right:* Barbara Bos

## Women's History Month



### Amelia Boynton Robinson

Amelia was an educator, voter rights activist, and helped plan and organize the “Bloody Sunday” march for voter’s rights in Selma, Alabama in 1965, where she was severely beaten along with many others. She was the first Black woman and the first woman to run for Congress from Alabama. In 1990 she was awarded the Martin Luther King, Jr. Freedom Medal. She was portrayed in the Oscar nominated movie, *Selma*.

Born in Savannah, Georgia on August 18, 1911, she was one of ten children. Her father, was a construction worker and her mother, Anna, was a seamstress. When she wasn't working, Anna traveled to rural Black communities to promote women's suffrage. She often took 10-year-old Amelia with her as she knocked on doors and accompanied women to the polls to cast their votes.

Amelia earned a degree in home economics from Tuskegee University and in 1929, she got a job with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and traveled around Alabama promoting home canning, nutrition, and agricultural improvements. In 1930, she met Samuel William Boynton, a local USDA Extension Agent. Together, they taught rural African Americans how to improve their farming methods and home economics. They also talked about the importance of politics and education in improving their lives. They encouraged people to register to vote, and to buy land. (For full biography click [here.](#))

# Citizens Not Politicians



**We still need 20,000 more signatures in Summit County!!!**

You can volunteer several ways: Write postcards, pick up and deliver petitions and, most importantly, collect signatures. To circulate petitions, here's what you need to do:

- 1.) REGISTER with Citizens Not Politicians [HERE](#), and also register with Citizens Not Politicians - Summit County [HERE](#).
- 2.) COMPLETE A TRAINING. Once you register you will see the dates for the training sessions. This is a requirement the campaign is insisting everyone do. Please try to get it done soon. We will also be offering in person training soon.
- 3.) CONTACT OUR PETITION CAPTAINS [Hillary Sullivan](#) or [Lorann Murphy](#) to let them know you've completed the training.
- 4.) THEN SIGN UP [here](#) for events where you can gather signatures. To get petition books to circulate, contact Lorann.

## About the Petition:

The LWV of Ohio is joining forces with other Leagues and Common Cause Ohio to obtain signatures on the Citizens Not Politicians Amendment. This amendment:

- Creates the 15-member Ohio Citizens Redistricting Commission made up of Democratic, Republican, and Independent citizens who broadly represent the different geographic areas and demographics of the state.
- Bans current or former politicians, political party officials, lobbyists, and large political donors from the Commission.
- Requires fair and impartial districts by making it unconstitutional to draw voting districts that discriminate against or favor any political party or individual politician.
- Requires the commission to operate under an open and independent process.

To learn more go to [www.citizensnotpoliticians.org](http://www.citizensnotpoliticians.org)



# Miami, Ohio Student Editorial on Citizens Not Politicians



Jenny Fisher is the co-president of the Organization for the League of Women Voters of Oxford, Ohio. She is a student at Miami University and wrote an **editorial** about **Citizens Not Politicians** which explains its importance as well as the past attempts for fair districts.

## Coming Soon: Annual Meeting on May 9



### *Photos from Last Year's Annual Meeting.*

*Above: Kathy Gerrard gives a presentation. Top Right: Hillary Sullivan, Connie Blohm, Diana Kunze, Marcia Boote, Rosanne Thomas. Right: Karen Leith, Carol O'Connell and Kate Jones.*

**Our Annual Meeting is May 9th at 6:30pm at the NGE Clubhouse. At this meeting we will discuss and vote on upcoming LWWH action. A quorum of members is required for this meeting so please plan to attend.**

**1) LWWUS is changing the membership system. Members will pay LWWUS directly. Currently you pay your local chapter then our treasurer pays LWWUS and LWVO their portion of your dues. The new system will work in reverse with the local chapters receiving payment from LWWUS. There are a lot of questions still to be answered.**

We expect that this new system will allow us to change our communication platform. This will be less cumbersome for our committee but generally seamless for our members. *If you have technical, social media, or writing skills the communications committee could really use your help!*

2) **LWVH is considering changing from a 501c4 to a 501c3.** At the Annual Meeting you can expect to hear the pros and cons of each and then we'll vote on how to proceed and if needed, vote on the appropriate amendments to our Bylaws.

3) **We will vote in new LWVH Board Officers.** If you are interested in joining the board, the nominating committee is interested in you! Contact **Arlene**.

4) **Member input requested!** Do you have any suggestions for a possible study or particular program?

## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

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