

April 9 – LWV ABC Annual Meeting

It's our Annual Meeting - Come Celebrate LWV ABC's 80th Anniversary!



Monday, April 9, 2018, 6:00 PM

Andover Senior Center, at north end of City Hall, 1685 Crosstown Blvd

6:00 Supper will be served by our board members. Come enjoy their favorites.

6:30 Meeting begins -- Hear about the year's accomplishments and what's ahead for the upcoming busy election year; participate in identifying programs and educational issues for the new year, act on a proposed budget; elect officers; and identify your volunteer interests.

All are welcome to attend. Members will receive via email an Annual Meeting Edition of our newsletter, The Voter, with meeting goals, agenda, reports, and proposed budget.

Speaking of budget, our annual dues are due at this meeting. Please bring a check to cover this cost, or pay online on LWV ABC's [Join page](#). Individual dues (one person) are \$60/year – other levels, and scholarships, are available - see story page 6.

March 12 Membership Meeting: Redistricting - Drawing Fair District Maps
Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera, Executive Director, Common Cause Minnesota

Many thanks to Ms. Belladonna-Carrera for her remarks on March 12. If you missed this program, you can view it online at <http://qctv.org/league-of-women-voters/>, starting at about 20 minutes. Here's a short summary of her talk.

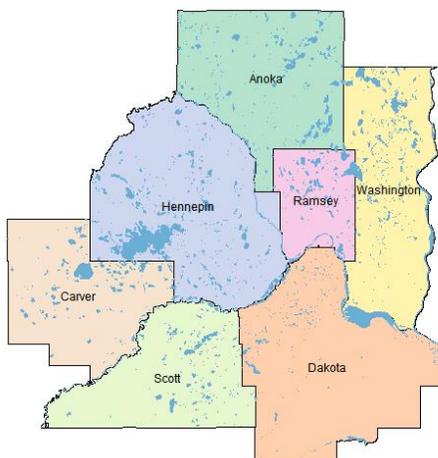
Common Cause was founded in early 1970's by Republican John Gardner. Democracy is not a red issue or a blue issue – these are not partisan concepts. He wanted to form a “we the people” component in government – a citizen lobby. There are about 11,000 members statewide, strongest in Metro area suburbs.

Common Cause covered three issues last year at the Leg:

- Provisional ballots
- Maps and line drawing
- Public campaign finance

Common Cause supports a constitutional amendment to allow a group of retired supreme court justices to set rules. Gerrymandering is not a terminal diagnosis for democracy – she gave the example of someone who lost in their gerrymandered district. She sees district maps as “voting maps” – the most fundamental right of a citizen in your country. Legislators need to see that they represent all people in their district, not just the people of their party.

Who truly holds power in a Democracy? The voters. We need to remember and believe this!



CMAL... what's this anyhow?

CMAL is the [Council of Metropolitan Leagues](http://www.cmalmn.org/). It's an Inter League Organization, meaning that it is made up of a number of local Leagues, like LWV ABC, who join together for a common purpose. In this case, the common purpose is the Twin Cities metropolitan area, and the issues that we jointly face.

Karen Hartman from LWV Roseville area gave a short talk on the purpose and history of CMAL. If you missed this program, you can view it online at <http://qctv.org/league-of-women-voters/>, preceding Ms. Belladonna-Carrera.

Highlights of LWV ABC Board meeting, March 26, 2018

Contributed by Arlene Gillette

Geri Nelson reported that six ABC members went to Moderator Training on Saturday, March 24th, hosted by Laura Helmer of the state League office. Twenty seven League members from around the state were treated to an excellent program, an informative and interactive experience that really helped prepare us for moderating forums. ABC members attending were: Geri Nelson, Lynda VanDriel, Sara Berg-McConville, Karen Varian, Lonnie McCauley, and Arlene Gillett. There will be more of these training sessions at various sites around the state in the future.

We will be focusing on student voter registration this Spring and Fall, with plans to hold registration events at all area high schools, and also at Anoka Community College. A Voter Registration training session will be held on Sunday, April 29th at the Blaine Northtown Library from 1 - 3:30PM. We are going to have information about joining League available on the registration table.

Fall candidate forums, an important part of our community activities, will be starting in August. Since early voting will start on Sept. 24th, our forums will be done before that date in order to not conflict with it. Forums will be held (as needed) in Champlin, Fridley, Andover, Coon Rapids, Anoka, Ramsey, and for Anoka County Commissioners. We may also go into Ham Lake, Columbia Heights, and Spring Lake Park. Geri suggested that we might try having two moderators at each forum, to perhaps make it more interesting and break up the sections of the forum.

Sandra Connor reported that the work on the 100th Anniversary exhibit at the Anoka History Center is going along well. Our fund raiser Tea will be on Sat., May 5th, and she will have flyers about it at our Annual Meeting on April 9th.



Did you know that the LWV ABC Board meetings are open to all members? Join us for lunch at Davanni's Riverdale location, [3430 129th Ave NW, Coon Rapids, MN 55448](https://www.davannis.com/locations/riverdale). Order your lunch at 11, we start the meeting at 11:30 and are usually done by 1pm. It's a good way to get more involved in the work of LWV ABC!



THE VOTER

April 2018

Save the Dates!

Voter Registration Training

Sunday, April 29, 2018, 1:30-3:30 PM; Northtown Library
In partnership with Indivisible North

Want to learn the ins and outs of voter registration? This training will prepare you to register students and others and answer their questions with confidence. Young people and others who have not been engaged before are eager to get involved and realize that voting is critical to **getting their agenda across to lawmakers. Be part of LWV's challenge to register one million young voters by 2020** in 400 schools

LWV Centennial Tea – May 5, Anoka County History Center

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Anoka County History Center
2135 Third Avenue North
Anoka, Minnesota 55303
(Free parking)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ABC along with the Anoka County History Center is Hosting a CENTENNIAL TEA to raise funds for an exhibit featuring the League of Women Voters Chapters that have been active in Anoka County and women of Anoka County who championed the 19th Amendment. The exhibit will open at the Anoka County History Center in 2019. See story on page 4!

LWV Minneapolis “Civic Buzz” – April 3, Minneapolis

Omnibus Bills – Democracy in Action?

Tuesday, April 3, 2018, Black Forest Inn, 26th and Nicollet Ave S
5:30 Networking, 6:15-7:30 Speaker & Discussion

Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues of Women Voters (CMAL) 2018 Annual Convention “Celebrating CMAL and Planning for the Future”

Saturday April 21, 2018, St. Louis Park City Hall
10:00 am – 2:00 pm – Lunch provided by CMAL

LWV Minnesota Council 2018 – April 28 in St. Cloud

Join other League'ers from across Minnesota for the [2018 Minnesota Council](https://lwwmn.org/local-leagues/lwv-minnesota-council-2018). This event will be a great place to network, to find out what our peers are doing across the state, and to learn. Click this link for more information - <https://lwwmn.org/local-leagues/lwv-minnesota-council-2018>

Fun event – May 5! Limited tickets remain... buy yours now! Bring a friend!

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS!

The 19th Amendment Gave women the right to vote nearly 100 years ago and the League of Women Voters of the United States will soon celebrate 100 years of **Making Democracy Work®**.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS ABC along with the Anoka County History Center is Hosting a *CENTENNIAL TEA* to raise funds for an exhibit featuring the League of Women Voters Chapters that have been active in Anoka County and women of Anoka County who championed the 19th Amendment. The exhibit will open at the Anoka County History Center in 2019.

Date: Saturday, May 5, 2018

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Location: Anoka County History Center
2135 Third Avenue North
Anoka, Minnesota 55303
(Free parking)

Program: "It All Began With a Tea"

Learn about the history of League of Women Voters in Anoka County and about the exhibit that will showcase League of Women Voters and inspirational women of Anoka County.

Tickets: \$25

Tickets are available at LWV ABC meetings or by calling Sandy at 763-780-8257
(LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS IS A 501(c) (3)
NONPROFIT. \$15 IS A Deductible DONATION.)



Reservation and Payment Required by April 30, 2018.
(Limited to 40 people)

Co-sponsored by LWV ABC and Anoka County History Center

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT Sandy at 763-780-8257 or lwvabc@gmail.com
Sandy will be on hand at the April meeting if you'd like to pay her there!

Drafts and Discourse –

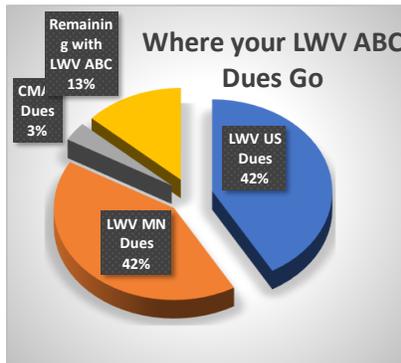
Drafts and Discourse will be taking a hiatus until June or so, when we will move this meeting to the new Torg Brewing opening in Spring Lake Park. Torg will have a larger room that we can use for watching videos and having speakers, which will be wonderful. Once this facility opens (expected in June), we'll have more information in the newsletter. Thanks for your support of this experiment for LWV ABC!



LWV ABC Membership Dues

Dues for 2018 are due at the Annual Meeting on April 12.

Did you know? Dues payments to LWV ABC cover the cost of local, state and national LWV membership, and provide only part of what LWV spends on programs and advocacy. Additional donations help with scholarships, program needs and operating costs.



You can bring a check to the meeting or pay online through our website using the [JOIN page](#). If we don't get your payment in April, we will send a friendly reminder in May.

If you are in need, scholarships are available to help defray dues expense. No one will be excluded from LWV ABC because they cannot make the annual dues payment. Please talk to an LWV ABC Board Member if you wish to explore this option

We offer several dues levels:

Dues	Description
Life member	(more than 50 years with LWV) – dues paid (free!)
Individual dues	(one person) - \$60
Household dues	(up to three persons, same address) - \$90
Student dues	(current full-time student) - \$30

Additional donations to support LWV dues scholarships and other local program needs are very welcome; please consider “rounding up” your dues payment. THANK YOU!



**LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®**
ANOKA, BLAINE, COON RAPIDS AREA

THE VOTER

April 2018

Save the Dates:

Monday, April 9 – **LWV ABC Annual Meeting** – Andover City Hall (Senior Center) at 1685 Crosstown Blvd. Light supper at 6, program starts at 6:30. All are welcome!

Monday, April 23, 11am – **LWV ABC Board meeting** at Davanni's Coon Rapids

Tuesday, April 3 – Minneapolis Civic Buzz "**Omnibus Bills – Democracy in Action?**" at Black Forest Inn, Minneapolis, 5:30 networking, 6:15 speaker

Saturday, April 21, 10 am – **Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues of Women Voters (CMAL) 2018 Annual Convention** "Celebrating CMAL and Planning for the Future"

Saturday, April 28, 8 am – **LWV Minnesota Council**, Marriott Courtyard, St. Cloud

Saturday, May 5, 2pm – **LWV ABC Centennial Tea**, Anoka County Historical Society

Staying 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.

We're on Facebook: Just search for "LWV ABC Facebook".

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.

Have Information to share with LWV ABC?

Email your information to lwvabc@gmail.com for inclusion
In one or more of the above