

March 12 Membership Meeting: Redistricting - Drawing Fair District Maps

Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera, Executive Director, Common Cause Minnesota

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

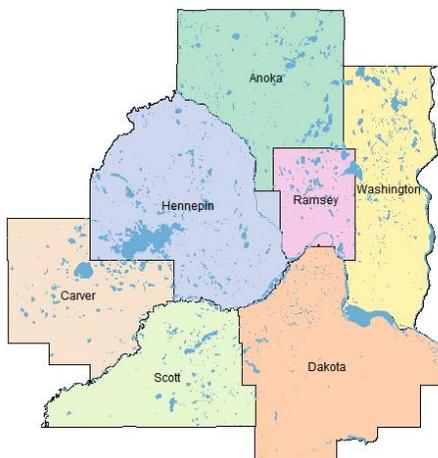
Starting at 6pm with light supper; presentation at 7 in City Council chambers

Every 10 years, states re-draw the boundaries of congressional and legislative districts. Redistricting is supposed to reflect changes in population and ensure that everyone is fairly represented. But politicians draw districts to give themselves or their party an unfair advantage. Common Cause believes voters should choose their representatives, not the other way around.

Like LWV, Common Cause is working to create better ways to draw districts that fairly represent our state's communities, whether that is independent commissions, non-partisan state staff, or clear constitutional rules for how lines should be drawn.

Annastacia will talk about redistricting in Minnesota, and the work that's going on to ensure that we have Fair District Maps.

Gather at 6 for a light supper in the Senior Center, then we will move down the hall to City Council chambers for Announcements and a short Council of Metropolitan Area Leagues (CMAL) presentation. [Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera from Common Cause](#) will speak at 7. This meeting is open to all, including the supper and CMAL presentation. QCTV will be filming the event for later cablecast.



CMAL... what's this anyhow?

CMAL is the [Council of Metropolitan Leagues](#). 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.

At our March 12 meeting, we will have a short presentation on CMAL and what we are working on through them. This will precede the talk by Annastacia Belladonna-Carrera.

On a related note, CMAL will be holding their Annual Convention on April 21. [Here's more on this, following:](#)

Save the Dates!

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

Program: Presentation of CMAL History Project
Recognition of Current and Past CMAL Delegates, Sharing of Recollections

Invitees: All local league members in the metro area
All current and past CMAL delegates

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>

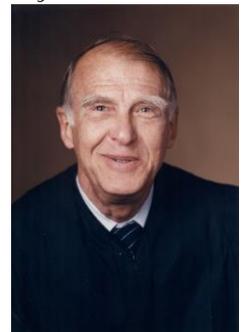
LWV Minneapolis “Civic Buzz” – April 3, Minneapolis
Omnibus Bills – Democracy in Action?

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

At 2:00 a.m. on the last day of the 2015 session a small committee amended the Omnibus State **Government Finance Bill to cut the core out of the State Auditor’s job. There had been no bill, no hearings, no testimony.** This bill funded the entire state government. Had Dayton vetoed the bill, it would have shut down state government. The bill was signed and became law.

Omnibus bills thwart citizen efforts to follow the legislative process, much less participate in government decisions. Omnibus bills are packages of budget measures and policy changes, most of which began life as individual bills, but which have been bundled together into one enormous bill comprising sometimes more than 100 pages.

The individual bills comprising an omnibus bill were introduced by legislators in the usual fashion, referred to appropriate committees, had hearings, testimony was taken, possibly they were amended – **and then the committee chair announces, grandly, “House File XX will be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus bill.” No vote is taken.** Citizens who have come to the Capitol to testify leave with no idea how the committee might have voted on their bill. No committee member is accountable for a vote on this issue, since no vote is taken.



Omnibus bills, of which there are many every session, violate LWV’s position that governmental bodies must **protect the citizen’s right to know and must facilitate citizen participation in government decision-making.** Appeals Court Judge Jack Davies (ret.), a former state senator **and current active lobbyist, will discuss how we arrived at this point in our “democratic” legislative process, and what, if anything, can be done about it.**

Fun event – May 5!

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 March meeting if you'd like to pay her there!



Drafts and Discourse –
March 21 at 6pm

This new brewery will welcome LWV ABC members and guests at 6pm. Buy a pint at the bar and join in the discussion. Alloy Brewing is at 2700 Coon Rapids Blvd in Coon Rapids, in the old Enterprise Rental Car shop. See you at the brewery!

We have moved these to the third Wednesday of the month. The new sign is up – easier to find!



Now you can donate to LWV ABC online!

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS (NATIONAL)

Please write your tax-deductible check to the "League of Women Voters Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids Area". We are a 501(c)(3) organization.

Comments _____

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Please consider adding \$1.62 to your donation to cover the cost LWV ABC pays for the PayPal transaction.



Thank you for your support!

Many thanks to Webmaster Bruce Pomerantz for adding PayPal functionality to our website! You will find this link on the "[Donate to Us](#)" page.



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

THE VOTER

March 2018

Save the Dates:

Monday, March 12 – **Redistricting – Drawing Fair District Maps** – Andover City Hall (Senior Center) at 1685 Crosstown Blvd. Light supper at 6, program starts at 6:30. All are welcome!

Wednesday, March 21, 6pm – **Drafts and Discourse** at Alloy Brewing, 2700 Coon Rapids Blvd.

Monday, March 28, 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

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