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LWV CNHEPR's 66th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, April 25th, 2023 at 6 p.m.

Gramercy Park Cooperative
10400 45th Ave N, Plymouth

This is an important meeting for members to attend. At this meeting we conduct Board elections, approve the 2023-24 budget, review our Local Program, receive the Annual Report, as well as collecting membership dues for 2023-24.

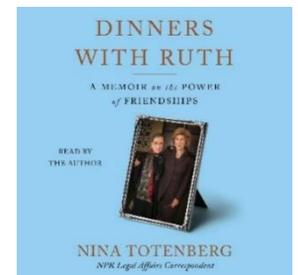
We'll be emailing RSVP invites or calling in early April. It's a great time to connect with your fellow league members, find out what is happening in the upcoming year, and gear up for the next election season (already!).

The March Book Study

**Join your fellow league bookworms
in March for a book discussion via Zoom
on Thursday, March 23rd at 6:30pm
(link will be sent prior to meeting)**

**Dinners with Ruth:
A Memoir on the Power of Friendships
by Nina Totenberg**

Celebrated NPR correspondent Nina Totenberg delivers an extraordinary memoir of her personal successes, struggles, and life-affirming relationships, including her beautiful friendship of nearly fifty years with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.



BOARD MEETINGS

**All members
are welcome to attend!**

QUESTIONS?

Email lwvcnhepr@lwvmn.org
or call 763-290-0288

Wednesday, March 1st
6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Wednesday, April 5th
6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Wednesday, May 3rd
6:30 p.m.
In-person
New Hope City Hall

President's Letter

March 2023

Dear League Members,

2022 was a busy election year for our League. We welcomed new members, conducted eight candidate forums, held the summer picnic at the New Hope Village golf course for our members, three farmers market voter registrations events and two at our high schools. The year was capped with our first in-person holiday party in three years where our members gave generously in donating \$750 to the Robbinsdale Area School Districts project for Bounce Back Kits for student finishing trauma counseling. Thank you!

We have plenty to look forward to in 2023 and many ways to contribute. The year started with the Council of Metro Leagues' County Commissioner panel, the Legislator interviews with Senator Ann Rest which was followed the next day with the bi-annual review of LWV MN's Program for Action summary of League's positions. There was the special election candidate forum for the Robbinsdale Ward 1. On February 4th several of our members heard from Professor David Schultz about "Making Democracy Work" and LWV's position to abolish the Electoral College. While that proves to be very difficult, nothing is impossible. His final message was how imperative it is to address the wealth gap.

There are more events and opportunities upcoming, so I ask you to please be diligent in reading our League and LWVMN emails and newsletters for important information. Please commit to stepping up to be on a committee and finding that one or two things you will do to "Empower Voters, Defend Democracy!"

Patsy

Patsy Green
President
LWV Crystal New Hope East Plymouth Robbinsdale



"The moral test of government is how it treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the aged; and those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy, and the handicapped."

--Hubert H. Humphrey, from his last speech in Washington D.C., November 1, 1977

Membership Opportunities

Be a Delegate to the 2023 LWVMN Bi-Annual Convention in New Ulm, June 2-3, 2023

Registration Opens March 3rd.

Your local league pays the registration fees.

Come celebrate being able to share meaningful time **together** and help set the future agenda in our second century!

<https://www.lwvmn.org/convention-2023>

Nominations are open for LWVMN board positions.

Elections of officers take place at the 2023 Convention.

<https://www.lwvmn.org/nominations>

This is a great opportunity to learn more about LWV in MN, other Leagues, partnerships and operations.

The open positions are:

Treasurer or co-treasurer

Voter Services co-chair

Action & Advocacy co-chair

LWVMN partner ERAMN is hosting International Women's Day at the Capitol.

March 8th, 2023 at 1pm.

<https://eramn.org/event/international-womens-day-era-capitol-action/>



Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

Our league hosted the DEI Roundtable on February 27th for area leagues to discuss issues and ideas around equity. We had a wonderful guest speaker this month, Kiarra Zackery, who served as Golden Valley's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Manager and is now the Director of Equity and Inclusion for Intermediate District 287. She talked about working in Golden Valley to help the Just Deeds coalition move forward, reviewing the procurement and hiring processes and making intentional changes with positive outcomes for equity.

Ms. Zackery talked about the nature of equity work and this expectation that one person can identify issues, propose solutions, while also having the power to enact/enforce them. This points to a problem with the DEI “trend” and demonstrates that, as community members, there is a need for us to show up and support the people who are doing this hard work in our communities.

When she was asked “What can we do to make a difference?”, she gave us a lot to think about:

- Show up and come together intentionally.
- Be authentic.
- Listen to and believe the stories/feelings of others.
- Understand how history is connected to contemporary outcomes.
- Look for opportunities to remove barriers to equity.
- Think about what equity means in our organization and to ourselves as individuals.

How Can You Make a Difference?

The first step to making a difference is [SHOWING UP](#) – in little ways or big ways.
It's that time of year when opportunities to engage in your league are plenty.
Been away for a while and want to get more involved?

Work on a committee with experienced members and bring your fresh perspective.

If you're not sure what you can do or need more information, contact Patsy at 612-306-3981
or email lwvcnhepr@lwvmn.org.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Voter Services Director: Works with committee on voter education, registration, candidate forums and moderator recruitment, outreach to disenfranchised voters, applies for Voter Service grants.

Membership Chair: Committee duties include new member recruitment, responding to member inquiries, member manual, training, support and LWVUS/LWVMN Roster management.

Local Program Committee: Organizes at least one program per year for community education of members and general public. Programs are based on current topics of interest and/or LWVMN/LWVUS Programs for Action. Organizes local league events, holiday dinner, and summer potluck.



COMMITTEE OPPORTUNITIES

Advocacy & Action

- Looking for members to keep tabs on city council issues that would be of interest to our league.

Membership

- Committee members needed to generate ideas for and plan membership recruitment events.
- League mentors – partner with new members to invite them to events, introduce them to other members and welcome them to our League.

Voter Service

- Committee members to help plan voter registration events and outreach in our communities.

Local Program

- Members to plan annual public program on subject of community interest.
- Plan and organize local league events.

National & State Program

- Keep our local league apprised of LWVMN and LWVUS policy positions.

Communications

- The Voter Newsletter
- Know Your Government document and other printed materials
- Social Media-including Webpage, Facebook, Public Relations

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Community Outreach

- Cultivate connections/network with community organizations in service to DEI goals.
- Work with Voter Services to organize events/programs to provide voter education/resources to underserved communities.
- Work with Membership to create inclusive organizational environment for members.

Did You Know?

There's a lot to learn about the League and we're going to share history, current policy issues, and profiles from the League of Women Voters.

Learn about Mary Ann Shadd Cary



Mary Ann Shadd Cary was born in 1823 to parents dedicated to the abolition of slavery. Her parents taught her much about fighting for equality and often provided shelter for fugitive slaves.

Cary moved to Canada with the passage of the Fugitive Slave Law in 1850 where she founded an antislavery newspaper in Canada.

Widowed during the Civil War, Cary moved to Washington, D.C., where she taught at public schools and lectured around the country on women's rights and the women's suffrage movement.

She studied law at Howard University and graduated in 1883 as one of the first black female lawyers in the country.

*"The crowning glory of American citizenship is that it may be shared equally by people of every nationality, complexion, and sex."
Mary-Ann Shadd Cary (1823-1893)*

From the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture
Read more profiles at:

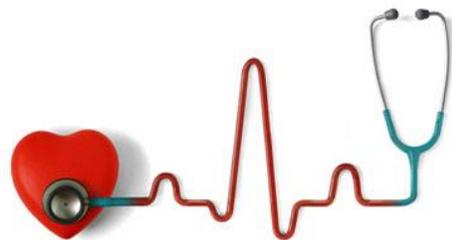
<https://nmaahc.si.edu/explore/stories/five-you-should-know-african-american-suffragists>

There's a policy position for that?

While the League is a nonpartisan organization, it takes strong **public policy positions** on all aspects of our government and political processes. The US League and LWVMN has policy positions on:

Health Care

US: Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all U.S. residents, including behavioral health, and controls health care costs. Every U.S. resident should have access to a basic level of care that includes: the prevention of disease; health promotion and education; primary care (including prenatal and reproductive health); acute care; long-term care; mental health care.



MN: Support a comprehensive and coordinated system of programs and services for mentally ill adults and emotionally disturbed children and adolescents. Priority should be given to persons with serious and persistent mental illness or acute mental illness.

You can read more about LWVMN and LWVUS policy positions at <https://www.lwvmn.org/our-positions>

LWV Calendar	2023	
March	1	LWV CNHEPR Board Meeting, 6:30pm, via Zoom
	4	Seven Dreams Education Foundation Bird Bash
	8	ERAMN Hosting International Women's Day at Capitol
	12	Daylight Savings Begins
	23	LWV CNHEPR Book Study via Zoom at 6:30pm
	23	Citizenship Ceremonies, 9am-4pm at the Saint Paul RiverCentre
April	5	LWV CNHEPR Board Meeting, 6:30pm, via Zoom
	11	Citizenship Ceremonies, 9am-4pm at the Saint Paul RiverCentre
	22	Earth Day
	25	66 th LWV CNHEPR Annual Meeting at 6pm, Gramercy Park Cooperative, 10400 45 th Ave N., Plymouth
May	3	LWV CNHEPR Board Meeting, 6:30pm, Civic Center Room, New Hope City Hall, 4401 Xylon Ave N.
	4	Voter Registration at Cooper High School, Time TBD
	16	Citizenship Ceremonies, 9am-4pm at the Saint Paul RiverCentre
	29	Memorial Day



www.lwvcnhepr.org
lwvcnhepr@lwvmn.org

763.290.0288

President Patsy Green
Voter Editor Michelle Jayne

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy.