Calendar of Events

webmaster@lwv-rma.org

June 6, 2024

Annual Meeting
Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word
597 East Ave
Rochester, NY
05:00 PM - 07:00 PM EST
Members will gather and:

Honor Rochester Institute of Technology's "Roar the Vote" Team with the annual Making Democracy Work Award

Honor our Lifetime Members with the Carrie Chapman Catt Award

Recognize members with the "You Make Us Proud" Award

Elect officers and board members for the next year

Discuss and approve our budget for the next year

Vote on converting to a 501(c)3 organization and the related changes to the Incorporation Document and Bylaws

Receive reports from all of our committees on the past year's work

Hear from President Barbara Grosh on where we are and where we're going

Enjoy delicious appetizers and drinks while we meet up with old friends and make new ones

Materials for the meeting (proposed slate of the Board of Directors, proposed budget, proposed positions) will be available for download in the members-only section of the website by May 6. An email will be sent when they are available. You will need to be logged in to access them.

The meeting will be held at The Lutheran Incarnate Word Church, 597 East Avenue, Rochester, NY from 5:00 P.M.- 7:00 P.M. There is a \$10 fee for this event. A registration link will be sent by email along with the link to the materials.

May 3, 2024

First Friday I-Square 200 Bakers Square Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

Join us for social time at I-Sqare. There's no agenda but we talk about everything League and lots of political discussions. A lot of great ideas originate at First Fridays and a lot of work gets done. And we have a lot of fun. Come when you can, leave when you must. No need to register, just come!

May 11, 2024

Meet Your Ballot
Arnett branch library
310 Arnett Blvd.
Rochester, NY
12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST
meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

What will be on my ballot?
How do I figure out who to vote for?
What's the voting process like?
Do I need ID?
What if I make a mistake?

GET ANSWERS!

Come and see what a ballot looks like. See videos from a polling place. Learn about early voting and mail-in voting.

Free, all welcome, even if you didn't register in advance. Come to any of our monthly sessions. Feel free to bring a friend.

May 15, 2024

Should We Convert to Become a 501(c)3?

07:00 PM - 08:00 PM EST

The board of LWV-RMA has recommended that we convert from our current 501(c)4 status (under IRS regulations) to become a 501(c)3. In order to give members ample time to become informed of the consequences, we've scheduled a webinar where the issue will be explained and there will be plenty of time to ask questions. Join Us on zoom.

May 16, 2024

Book Club: American Midnight: The Great War, a Violent Peace, and Democracy's Forgotten C 04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

Book club is held via zoom. The zoom link is sent to regulars each month. If you'd like to try book club out, send an email to vote411@lwv-rma.org and ask to be added to the book club mailing list.

The nation was on the brink. Mobs burned Black churches to the ground. Courts threw thousands of people into prison for opinions they voiced—in one notable case, only in private. Self-appointed vigilantes executed tens of thousands of citizens' arrests. Some seventy-five newspapers and magazines were banned from the mail and forced to close. When the government stepped in, it was often to fan the flames.

This was America during and after the Great War: a brief but appalling era blighted by lynchings, censorship, and the sadistic, sometimes fatal abuse of conscientious objectors in military prisons—a time whose toxic currents of racism, nativism, red-baiting, and contempt for the rule of law then flowed directly through the intervening decades to poison our own. It was a tumultuous period defined by a diverse and colorful cast of characters, some of whom fueled the injustice while others fought against it: from the sphinxlike Woodrow Wilson, to the fiery antiwar advocates Kate Richards O'Hare and Emma Goldman, to labor champion Eugene Debs, to a little-known but ambitious bureaucrat named J. Edgar Hoover, and to an outspoken leftwing agitator—who was in fact Hoover's star undercover agent. It is a time that we have mostly forgotten about, until now.

In American Midnight, award-winning historian Adam Hochschild brings alive the horrifying yet inspiring four years following the U.S. entry into the First World War, spotlighting forgotten repression while celebrating an unforgettable set of Americans who strove to fix their fractured country—and showing how their struggles still guide us today.

June 1, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Lyell branch library 956 Lyell Ave. Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

What will be on my ballot? How do I figure out who to vote for? What's the voting process like? Do I need ID? What if I make a mistake?

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June 7, 2024

First Friday
I-Square
200 Bakers Square
Irondequoit, NY

11:30 AM - 01:30 PM EST

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July 13, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Lincoln branch library 851 Joseph Ave. Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

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July 18, 2024

Book Club: Democracy Awakening: Notes on the State of America by Heather Cox Richardson 04:30 PM - 05:30 PM EST

Book club is held via zoom. The zoom link is sent to regulars each month. If you'd like to try book club out, send an email to vote411@lwv-rma.org and ask to be added to the book club mailing list.

In the midst of the impeachment crisis of 2019, Heather Cox Richardson launched a daily Facebook essay providing the historical background of the daily torrent of news. It soon turned into a newsletter and its readership ballooned to more than 2 million dedicated readers who rely on her plainspoken and informed take on the present and past in America.

In Democracy Awakening, Richardson crafts a compelling and original narrative, explaining how, over the decades, a small group of wealthy people have made war on American ideals. By weaponizing language and promoting false history, they have led us into authoritarianism -- creating a disaffected population and then promising to recreate an imagined past where those people could feel important again. She argues that taking our country back starts by remembering the elements of the nation's true history that marginalized Americans have always upheld. Their dedication to the principles on which this nation was founded has enabled us to renew and expand our commitment to democracy in the past. Richardson sees this history as a roadmap for the nation's future.

Richardson's talent is to wrangle our giant, meandering, and confusing news feed into a coherent story that singles out what we should pay attention to, what the precedents are, and what possible paths lie ahead. In her trademark calm prose, she is realistic and optimistic about the future of democracy. Her command of history allows her to pivot effortlessly from the Founders to the abolitionists to Reconstruction to Goldwater to Mitch McConnell, highlighting the political legacies of the New Deal, the lingering fears of socialism, the death of the liberal consensus and birth of "movement conservatism."

Many books tell us what has happened over the last five years. Democracy Awakening explains how we got to this perilous point, what our history really tells us about ourselves, and what the future of democracy can be.

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September 7, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Phyllis Wheatley branch library 33 Dr. Samuel McCree Way Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

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October 5, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Lyell branch library 956 Lyell Ave. Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

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November 2, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Phyllis Wheatley branch library 33 Dr. Samuel McCree Way Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

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December 7, 2024

Meet Your Ballot Lincoln branch library 851 Joseph Ave. Rochester, NY 12:00 PM - 02:00 PM EST meetyourballot@lwv-rma.org

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