

# The Voter

A Publication of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County

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## Making Democracy Work®

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) held its 52nd biennial national convention mid-June in Washington, DC and set its agenda for the next biennium. Through the Making Democracy Work® campaign, the League will fundamentally reshape our democracy by engaging millions more voters in the election process and strengthening the laws that govern money in politics, redistricting and voting rights so that it is free, fair and accessible to all.

To kick off the convention, League stormed Capitol Hill when hundreds of delegates brought a tough message about voting rights to their Congresspeople. “2016 will mark the first presidential election in 50 years without the vital protections for voters found in the Voting Rights Act (VRA),” said Elisabeth MacNamara, president of the League of Women Voters of the U.S. MacNamara went on to state, “It has been three years since the disastrous U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* gutted key provisions of the VRA and left voters and their rights at risk of discrimination. We need [Congress] to pass the Voting Rights Advancement Act (VRAA), legislation that will put protections back into place to ensure that Americans have equal opportunity to access the polls.”

Throughout the convention, delegates rallied around the League’s 2016 Campaign for Making Democracy Work®, setting the League’s agenda for the next two years, vowing to continue our fight for the voters. In addition, delegates reinforced the League’s commitment to combat climate change and protect the environment, adopted strong statements on gun safety and DC statehood, and expanded its position on health

care to include access to behavioral health services.

Over the weekend, participants heard from a variety of speakers including Give Us the Ballot author and journalist Ari Berman, NPR’s Peter Overby, Joe Goldman of the Democracy Fund, Jennifer Lawless of American University’s Women & Politics Institute, Amanda Taub of Vox & the New York Times, Keesha Gaskins of Rockefeller Brothers Fund and Lake Research Partners’ President Celinda Lake. A panel of election experts on protecting and expanding the electorate was held on Saturday and included Christine Chen, APIAVote; Kristen Clark, Lawyer’s Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; and Arturo Vargas, NALEO. All of the speakers commended the League and urged the organization to press forward using our community-based power on the critical issues of the day.

We look forward to sharing more details about how the Making Democracy Work® campaign will be implemented locally. Keep an eye out for updates in our weekly emails, on the website and in future editions of the *Voter*.



Washington delegates at the national convention.

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## Connecting with the Leadership

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I have just returned from two large League gatherings, the State Council in Vancouver and the National Convention in Washington, DC. And what a ride! Both meetings were inspiring in very different ways and gave me new enthusiasm and respect for all that the League does and how important we are to making democracy work for all.

State Council is much less formal than the National Convention, with more time for meeting and sharing ideas with other League members. And this year was especially rich, because it was a joint Council with Oregon. The theme was “Meet at the Columbia River,” so, naturally, we heard speakers about some of the issues facing us about the river: the negotiations about the Columbia River Treaty (which we held a forum about in April 2015), protecting river flows for fish and wildlife, and tribal efforts to reach a regional recommendation on the future of the treaty. Ironically, the oil train derailment at the Oregon town of Mosier occurred during the weekend of the council. That certainly brought home the need for protecting the river.

I came away with some great ideas we can use. For one, the Bellingham League has been very successful with its “Continuing the Conversation” program. After forums, those interested in talking more about the topic can set up informal meetings to get together. I know that some of us leave our forums wanting more, so I hope we try this.

The National Convention was more formal, with a new board to elect, a budget to approve, and program, by-laws changes, and resolutions to vote on. Some of these generated controversy, but in the end, the resolutions and by-law changes are good policy. (If you want specifics about these, please let me know.)

The overall theme of the National Convention was “Making Democracy Work® for All.” The League encourages universal suffrage, yet many

states are imposing restrictive identification rules for voting, clearly meant to deprive citizens of their vote. For example, in Texas, 600,000 voters have been disenfranchised. That many votes can make a big difference in most elections.

Some of the speakers addressed this problem directly, especially Ari Berman, the banquet speaker. His recent book, *Give Us the Ballot*, traces the history of voter rights and suppression from the passage of the Civil Rights Law. It is, frankly, a scary and depressing picture. I haven’t yet read the book, but I will, and from everything I’ve heard, it’s well worth reading.

Other speakers took different tacks. Jennifer Lawless, Director of Women and Politics Institute, American University, and co-author of *Running from Office*, talked about why many fewer women than men run for office, and why so few young people today would run for office. A surprising fact: people are more likely to be civically engaged if their families talked politics when they were growing up. Those people seem to understand the importance of government, of politics, of voting. There were also speeches about encouraging more minorities to vote, especially Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders.

We who take voting for granted are probably unaware of some of the barriers to voting that others face. Many, of course, feel that their vote doesn’t count, that they aren’t heard, and that the only time they’re paid attention to is when candidates come asking for their vote. It’s not surprising these people are cynical. But another, surprising reason, is that some people, especially newly naturalized citizens and those who have grown up without voting support, simply don’t know how to mark a ballot. One small thing we can do during voter registration drives is show the voter a sample ballot, and if they are interested show them how to mark it, place it in the correct envelopes, and sign their name.

On a completely different note, another topic

*Continued on page 6*

# July/August

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
July 3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12 Lt. Gov. Candidate Forum 12:15 p.m.	13	14	15	16 7th Congr'l. Candidate Forum 10:30 a.m.
17	18	19 Transportation Comm. 10:00 a.m.	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Education Comm. 11:00 a.m.	29	30 Econ. & Tax. Comm. 9:30 a.m.
31	<b>Aug 1</b>	2 Primary Election Day	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13

## JULY

Lt. Governor Candidates Forum  
Tuesday, July 12  
12:15 p.m.  
Seattle Public Library  
1000 4th Ave, Seattle

7th Congressional. Dist.  
Candidates Forum  
Saturday, July 16  
10:30 a.m.  
Shoreline City Hall  
17500 Midvale Ave N

Transportation Committee  
Tuesday, July 19  
10:00 a.m.  
League Office

Education Committee  
Thursday, July 28  
11:00 a.m.  
League Office

Econ. & Tax. Committee  
Saturday, July 30  
9:30 a.m.  
909 E. Newton #D-9, Seattle

## AUGUST

**The Voter Deadline**  
Monday, August 8

Transportation Committee  
Tuesday, Aug 16  
10:00 a.m.  
League Office

Education Committee  
Thursday, Aug 25  
11:00 a.m.  
League Office

## Forum Schedule

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**Sept 8** - Taxation and Tax Policy  
**Oct 6** - General Election Ballot Issues  
**Nov 3** - Affordable Housing  
**Jan 5** - Program Planning  
**Feb 2** - Issues on Aging  
**Mar 2** - Women's Issues  
**Apr 6** - Juvenile Justice  
**May 4** - Gun Control & Mental Health

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC) presents a public forum most months between September and May, generally on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Most forums are held at the Seattle First Baptist Church, but occasionally they are scheduled at other locations and times. The tentative schedule of forums for 2016-17 appears at left; check the *Voter* each month or the LWVS-KC website, [seattlelwv.org](http://seattlelwv.org), for up-to-date information. Past forums are frequently televised and can be accessed from the resources page of the website.

## Board Briefs by Lori Kessler, Secretary

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*The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County and Education Fund Boards met on June 1, 2016. This is a summary of their work.*

LWVS-KC's June meeting was the last meeting for outgoing board members, as well as an opportunity for incoming board members to experience a meeting and get oriented to their new roles. The board reviewed endorsement procedures for the benefit of the new members, and discussed rising issues, such as the housing levy and Sound Transit 3, which will need endorsement decisions soon.

The board agreed to sponsor the Social Justice Film Festival taking place in October at the \$250 level. Plans for an upcoming Leadership Circle

event were discussed, as were preliminary details for a Fall fundraiser.

Planning has begun for the 2017 State Convention, to be hosted by LWV-SKC. Members interested in assisting are encouraged to contact the League office. Voter Service also continues as a major focus during the run-up to elections, so any interested volunteers for voter service activities should get in touch with the office, as well.

## Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC), in both its values and practices, affirms its beliefs and commitment to diversity and pluralism, which means there shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.

LWVS-KC recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVS-KC subscribes to the belief that diversity and pluralism are fundamental to the values it upholds and that this inclusiveness enhances the organization's ability to respond more effectively to changing conditions and needs.

LWVS-KC affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its membership, board, staff and programs.

*Leadership continued:*

of conversation was the upcoming presidential election. What if you are asked by the media, for example, what the League thinks of Hillary Clinton heading a major political party, or how the League feels about Donald Trump? Many League members are conflicted about what we should say and do, especially about Trump, but we absolutely must remember and emphasize that we are nonpartisan. Don't simply say: "we're nonpartisan," say something like: "we never support or oppose candidates or political parties, and haven't in our 96 year existence." If asked about ballot issues, we say how we arrive at our positions. The National League is preparing a toolkit that we should receive soon, which will help us have a consistent message.

Finally, all Leagues, from National to the smallest, face the same problems of membership and fundraising. Wylecia Wiggs Harris, the Executive Director, emphasized two powerful words: Change and Engage. The League must change. It needs new membership models, it needs to embrace new technology, and it needs to have a sense of urgency, courage, and action. Technology has shaped a new breed of voters, and we need to engage them and others on their terms.

Likewise, donors want to see results, particularly the impact we have had. We can and should be the voice of authority on redistricting reforms, campaign finance reform, and voting rights, and have a bias toward action in these areas.

These are not easy changes to make, but make them we must. In the coming year, the board will take up this challenge, and with everyone's help, we'll make our good League even better.



Amanda Clark  
President



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# Committees

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## **LWVWA Carbon Emissions Reduction Committee**

DATE: Thursday  
 TIME: 10:00 a.m.  
 PLACE: League Office

Not meeting during the summer.

## **Economics and Taxation Committee**

DATE: Saturday, July 30  
 TIME: 9:30 a.m.  
 PLACE: 909 E. Newton #D-9, Seattle

## **Education Committee**

DATE: Thursday, July 28 & August 24  
 TIME: 11:00 a.m.  
 PLACE: League Office

Tentative dates; confirm with committee chair.

## **International Relations Committee**

DATE: Monday  
 TIME: 12:45 – 2:45 p.m.  
 PLACE: League Office

Not meeting during the summer.

## **Transportation Committee**

DATE: Tuesday, July 19 & August 16  
 TIME: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
 PLACE: League Office

Tentative dates; confirm with committee chair.

We encourage participation in our committees by all interested members. It's a great opportunity to meet and talk to community leaders, stakeholder organizations, and experts where you can have direct input on local issues that affect you.

Don't see a committee that covers your issue? Call the office and let us know. Sometimes people are working more informally without regularly scheduled meetings. If so, we may be able to help connect you with them or help you start your own.

Committee Chairs and their contact information is located on the inside back cover.

### **Mission Statement**

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

# King County Connects — Announcements



## ...with Your Help

There are loads of opportunities to do some great voter outreach and education this summer and fall but we'll need a lot of volunteers to do it. Take a look at the list below and sign up to be a part of these efforts.

### Voter Registration and Outreach

Tabling and clipboarding at community fairs and events is perfect for voter registration and outreach. In addition to helping people to register and update their registration, especially homeless voters and ex-felons who think they are not eligible, we are able to help all voters access quality information about voting, and learn about the League and what we do. We've already done several this summer in Auburn, Kent and three locations in Seattle. More are coming in July, August and September in Enumclaw, Seattle and more. Email us at [voterservice@seattlelwv.org](mailto:voterservice@seattlelwv.org) for information about training and to receive announcements about upcoming opportunities.

### Get Out the Vote

Helping people register is great, but teaching them to look for their ballot in the mail, know when to expect it, the mechanics of filling it out and returning it, and where to find information about the candidates and the ballot measures is also vital. This year everyone's focused on the presidential campaign but that energy gives us an opening to help connect people to the other races and items on the ballot as well as how voting works in Washington.

### Candidate and Ballot Issue Forums

One of the ways we help voters learn about the candidates and the issues is through our forums. League is holding two this month in Seattle (see back cover) and other forums in our area are listed on the calendar on our website: [seattlelwv.org/calendar](http://seattlelwv.org/calendar).

Demand for more forums is high and we need to start organizing now for the fall. Ask your unit or join a team to help organize a forum in your area. We need volunteers to help contact candidates, arrange for sites, serve as or recruit moderators and more.

**Interested?** Email us at [voterservice@seattlelwv.org](mailto:voterservice@seattlelwv.org).

**Questions?** Email and ask for a call back or call the office at 206-329-4848.



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# Action

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## Local Ballot Measures

### Vote NO on Initiative 123

#### The proposal for Elevated Park Lacks Sufficient Funding, Public Input

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County is urging voters to reject Seattle Initiative 123, a measure on the August ballot that calls for the creation of a Preservation and Development Authority to build and operate a one-mile elevated view park when the Alaskan Way Viaduct is torn down.

“Despite the initial appeal of a park said to be in the spirit of New York City’s High Line, the fine print in the initiative itself raises serious questions about its development and funding,” said Seattle-King County League President Amanda Clark.

After months of careful study of the initiative language, interviews with initiative stakeholders, and a thorough review of the League’s prior research on waterfront development, the League released a statement explaining its position. It concluded that in addition to having no identified funding source, adoption of I-123 would “throw away” years of public planning for Seattle’s waterfront, including plans for the Seattle Aquarium. The League has previously supported the current Aquarium plan, which is to build the new additions on land, not over the water, and incorporate the buildings into the view walkway from Pike Place Market.

Clark continued, “Unlike the existing waterfront development plans, which the public has been involved in since 2004, the planning for I-123 has been guided by only a few people and some media outreach.”

The board was still reviewing the affordable housing levy proposal at press time. Please check our website, [seattlelww.org](http://seattlelww.org), for the latest information.



## State Ballot Measures

LWVWA has endorsed the following measures:

I-1433 – Raise the WA minimum wage

I-1464 – Clean Up Politics in Washington

I-1491 – Allows temporary restriction of access to firearms by persons in mental health crisis.

These campaigns are still gathering signatures; the deadline to submit them is July 8.

The state League has not taken a position on the remaining ballot measures.

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# Voter Service

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## August 2 Primary Election

Candidates for statewide office, the state legislature, Washington's congressional delegation, and some judicial races will be on the primary ballot. In addition, the following local ballot measures will be on the ballot:

City of Normandy Park - Increase Property Tax Rate

City of Seattle - Initiative 123 (Park My Viaduct)

City of Seattle - Affordable Housing Levy Renewal

KC Fire Protection Dist. 2 (Burien/Normandy Park) - Renewal and Lid Lift Levy

KC Fire Protection Dist. 43 (Maple Valley) - Authorization of Benefit Charges

Public Hospital Dist. 2 (Evergreen Health) - Increase number of Board Members from Five to Seven

Ballots will be mailed on July 13 and should arrive on or about July 15.

Online and mail-in voter registration is closed but in-person registration is still available through July 25 at either the Elections Office Annex in the King County Administration Building in downtown Seattle (500 4th Ave) or at the Renton offices of King County Elections (919 SW Grady Way).

If you have moved within Washington but failed to update your address with the elections office, call right away at 206-296-8683 so they can send a ballot to your new address. It will have races based on your old address, but it is still legal for you to vote in all of them.

The state League is hosting several candidate forums (see the back cover for two local ones) and they are being recorded by TVW. They will be available for online viewing (see links at [www.seattlelwv.org](http://www.seattlelwv.org)) and many will also be rebroadcast on television (TVW is on channel 23 on most systems; check with your provider).

Looking for good information about the candidates?

**Go to [Vote411.org](http://Vote411.org)!**

This League run website allows you to customize your ballot guide and compare candidates you select side-by-side. Primary election information will be available starting July 9.



**CITY OF SEATTLE  
INITIATIVE MEASURE NO. 123**
**OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE:**

The City of Seattle Initiative Measure Number 123 concerns building and operating a mile-long elevated park on Alaskan Way.

If enacted, the measure would establish a public development authority (PDA) to build and operate an elevated park and other amenities along the waterfront integrating one block of the existing Alaskan Way Viaduct into the design. The PDA would seek public and private funding, including City funds, for this purpose and be responsible for its monetary liabilities. A twelve-member appointed and elected Council would govern the PDA including four members elected from the PDA Constituency, a public oversight membership group.

Should this measure be enacted into law?

Yes                       No

**BACKGROUND:**

Begun in 2004, extensive planning and community input resulted in a City-approved plan for the Seattle waterfront in 2012. Portions of the plan have already begun construction, such as the seawall. Other elements, including the waterfront park, were delayed due to the problems with Bertha and the Hwy 99 tunnel project. This gave the proponents of this measure a window to file this initiative in 2015.

**WHAT THIS MEASURE WILL DO:**

Initiative 123, if enacted, would create a downtown elevated park for pedestrians and slow bike riding. It would retain a 400-foot section of the current viaduct and construct a new elevated continuation. The park would run one mile from Pike Place Market to the Stadium District.

The Park would be governed by a Public Development Authority. This PDA would use public

funds as well as seek private money for its construction. The initiative says that the Seattle City Council shall make funds available to the PDA from any source available, including the general fund, to facilitate the PDA's purpose and its plan for the waterfront. Surplus City property shall be made available to the PDA at no cost.

If enacted, this initiative would render invalid the current City Council ordinance for razing the Viaduct and the current City plans for waterfront development and the Aquarium.

**Statements in Favor of I-123:**

I-123 would build a new elevated park that preserves the view currently seen from the Alaskan Way Viaduct. It is a better investment than a wide sidewalk at street level along the waterfront.

The plan uses the same amount of money and funding sources proposed for the current City plan.

The new "garden bridge" will be above traffic and will attract local users year-round for leisurely walks, bike riding, and picnicking.

**Statements in Opposition to I-123:**

Planning and construction for a new revitalized, accessible and vibrant waterfront are already moving forward. I-123 would undo work directly based on years of public input, collaborative neighborhood meetings, and planning for an environmentally responsible waterfront park.

*Continued on next page*

The plan for I-123 is largely undefined and doesn't include cost estimates. It would substantially delay the redevelopment of the waterfront.

Initiative 123 forms an unelected interim board to develop a plan that the City will then be legal-

ly obligated to pay for, no matter what the cost, from any source, including the general fund. It also requires the Council to hand over surplus city property to this board to use or sell as they see fit.

<p><b>CITY OF SEATTLE PROP 1: PROPERTY TAX LEVY RENEWAL FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING</b></p>
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**OFFICIAL BALLOT TITLE:**

The City of Seattle's Proposition 1 concerns replacing the Seattle Housing Levy.

If approved, this proposition would replace an expiring levy to fund: housing for low-income seniors, workers, and households, and the disabled and mentally ill; and homelessness prevention and reduction programs, including emergency rental assistance for at-risk families.

It authorizes regular property taxes above RCW 84.55 limits, allowing \$290,000,000 in additional taxes over seven years beginning in 2017, limited to \$41,428,571/year. The 2017 regular tax rate would be limited to \$3.60/\$1,000 assessed value, including approximately \$0.25/\$1,000 assessed value in additional taxes.

Should this levy lid lift be approved?

Yes                       No

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 1981, Seattle voters have passed and renewed the housing levy five times. Originally just for senior housing, over the years, additional types of housing and assistance have been provided in the levies. The expiring housing levy was for \$145 million and cost the median Seattle homeowner \$65 per year. As of 2015 it had produced or preserved 2,184 apartments, along with providing additional housing support services.

**WHAT THIS MEASURE WILL DO:**

Seattle Proposition 1 will renew and expand the Seattle Housing Levy that was passed by voters in 2009. The levy will fund affordable rental housing for low-income Seattle residents serving our neighbors with disabilities, seniors, families with children, formerly homeless families and individuals, and people working in low-wage jobs who might otherwise live far from the city.

The levy will invest resources in creating new affordable rental properties, preserving existing affordable housing, operate and maintain existing housing, support low-income homeowners in staying housed and preventing foreclosure, acquiring and preserving buildings and land for rental homeownership, and program administration. The expansion of the program is primarily focused on preventing homelessness and increasing homeownership.

The levy will generate \$290 million in revenue over 7 years and will cost the median Seattle homeowner \$122 per year (on a property assessed value of \$480,000).

**Statements in Favor of the Housing Levy:**

Our rapid growth is causing huge rent spikes, creating a severe shortage of affordable homes. Now more than ever, we need to provide for a future for our city's working families, young, seniors, and homeless.

Since first passed in 1981 the Housing Levy has produced over 12,500 apartment homes that are rent restricted for low income community members. It is critically important to support our neighbors in need and ensuring there is available housing stock is critically important.

This Seattle's Housing Levy has broad support - Mayor Ed Murray, all nine Seattle City Council Members, business leaders, social justice organizations, labor unions, the Church Council, neighborhood organizations. The expiring levy has been extremely successful in creating new and preserving affordable housing to ensure our city remains affordable for all. Vote YES for affordable housing in Seattle, vote YES on Proposition 1 by August 2!

**Statements in Opposition to the Housing Levy:**

The Housing Levy does not directly address the chronic issue of homelessness in our city and may make it worse by taxing property owners and pricing them out of their homes. While the Housing Levy may have worked in 1981, it is a much different city today and we need new ideas to address the important issue of housing affordability and homelessness facing our community now.

A NO vote will force our leaders to create a new policy that is realistic in addressing the needs of our communities today. In January 2016, 4,300 people were sleeping outside and more than 8,000 people were sleeping in shelters. This levy is not an appropriate strategy to truly address homelessness and the affordability crisis facing our region.



**Look for Your Ballot on July 15!**



## Getting Connected Membership News

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### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

#### **Marie T. Gudger**

Marie grew up in North Carolina and graduated from Duke University. As a CPA, she went to work for Price Waterhouse in Washington D.C. Forty years ago, Marie ventured to Washington state, where she served as comptroller and chief financial officer for Savings and Loan companies in Seattle and Bellevue. Her interests include reading, traveling and Bridge. She volunteers at Children's Hospital and has been involved with church activities.

#### **Karen and Don Gwilym**

Karen and Don, residents of Horizon House, joined the League to keep abreast of current events and to look at issues more deeply. Both have been involved with the Housing Group at Plymouth Church and its Healing Community, which helps people with mental illness. Don worked with Meals on Wheels and Karen was Vice President of Women's Funding Alliance and treasurer of the Faith and Trust Institute.

Don grew up in Seattle, earned a BS in Civil Engineering at the UW and worked for Seattle City Light from 1959 until 2000. Karen left Spokane, where she grew up, to attend the UW, where she earned a BS in nursing. Later she received her MSN in nursing from Seattle University. She was one of the nurses who helped open the pediatric unit at University Hospital. She worked at Swedish Hospital from 1974 to 2000.

Karen and Don raised three daughters and now enjoy five grandchildren. Don likes to hike - mostly around town now. Karen is a knitter, a weaver, and a sewer. She loves to read, mostly nonfiction, but is currently looking forward to reading: *MILO - Autistic Warrior*, by Elizabeth Haddon, to learn more about autistic children.

#### **April Putney**

April came to Seattle ten years ago with friends from Syracuse University who had formed tight bonds in their college years. They had scattered after graduation to the Peace Corps and other adventures, but wanted to get back together and decided Seattle was the place. April says they are now all prospering here, each pursuing their own careers.

April worked with Futurewise, a non-profit organization promoting smart growth, where she met Ann Aagard, who was working on growth management issues. Ann is an inspirational longtime League member who encouraged April to join LWV. April is currently working as a lobbyist for the office of Dow Constantine, King County Executive. April says she loves riding the bus and is an avid Sounders fan.

#### **Julie Sarkissian**

Julie was recently recruited by a friend to attend a voter registration orientation. Allison, our administrative manager, ever alert to recruitable talent, told Julie about the many volunteer opportunities. Julie found herself helping organize voter registration and working at the Citizen Information Desk on Wednesday afternoons. Julie says she is learning about all the other areas that League is involved in such as the study committees on carbon emissions reductions, transportation, economics and taxation, education and waterfront. Julie is interested in working to modify our voter registration efforts in Washington to be more automatic as in Oregon where registration occurs automatically when drivers receive their licenses. Julie is impressed by all the smart women she is meeting in the League.



## Features

### Waterfront Committee Update

by Charles and Nancy Bagley

If passed, Initiative 123, which you may know as Park My Viaduct, would destroy all adopted plans for the Seattle Waterfront. The League Board has voted to oppose Initiative 123 and urges voters to vote “No” on I-123 on the August 2 Primary Election. The press release regarding this decision, dated May 17, concludes “...in addition to having no identified funding source, adoption of I-123 would ‘throw away’ years of public planning for Seattle’s waterfront, including plans for the Seattle Aquarium.”

Bertha, the enormous tunnel boring machine, is finally moving steadily, averaging 40 feet per day and 100 feet underground at Westlake Avenue in solid soil ideal for drilling. Despite fears, it passed under the Viaduct without incident. As of this writing, it is 24% of the way; the hope is to finish drilling this December.

The April 15 League Waterfront Committee meeting the room was packed, and we heard from Chris Rogers, Aquarium Project Manager, and Marshall Foster, Director of the City Office of the Waterfront about the Aquarium’s plan for a new “Central” (on land) site for the Tropical Pacific Exhibit Pavilion. The Pavilion will have outstanding multi-level viewing of

reefs and open water typical of the South Pacific, from coral to sharks. It will be integrated into the City’s planned Overlook Walkway that descends from the Market and zig-zags downward to become the roof of the Pavilion, allowing the whole roof to become a 180 degree public viewing site close to the water. The Aquarium hopes to begin construction by 2020. The City released on April 18 the Draft Supplemental EIS for this project, designated as “Alternative 2.” The Waterfront Committee in April wrote a letter strongly supporting this plan. The final city EIS on the Waterfront Plan (including the pavilion) is expected this fall.

The Aquarium will need an EIS for the entire project of the new Pavilion, the renovation of Pier 59 and the expansion of Pier 60, as described in its Master Plan, which the League supported and the City Council adopted in 2015. In September they will ask for scoping comments.

A new plan for Pier 62/63 is under study. Pier 62/63 is the large pier area north of the Aquarium that is now a wasteland of bare planks. As envisioned, the south half (Pier 62) would get new pilings and deck, with lighting and a floating dock on its south to allow small boat landing. The north part (Pier 63) would not be improved, but would be open to the public. Construction may start in Fall 2017.



BOOK REVIEW by Vicky Downs

## GO SET A WATCHMAN By Harper Lee

The title the book comes from Isaiah 21:6: “Go set a watchman, let him declare what he seeth.” In this book everyone is a “watchman” and each declares in his own way what he “seeth” in the American South of the 1950s.

Henry Clinton, family friend and her brother’s comrade, meets Jean Louise Finch (we already know Jean Louise as Scout from *To Kill a Mocking Bird*) on her return to Maycomb Junction. He soon lets her know he hopes she is bored with New York City where she’s been living for five post-college years. He tells her what he sees in their future when he reports, “I have now reached an economic status that can provide for the support of two.”

Aunt Alexandra, her father’s sister, moved in to care for Atticus when severe arthritis made his life difficult. She knows the white community and constantly declares what she sees and knows-for-a-fact in Maycomb. Regarding the possibility of Henry actually marrying Jean Louise, she reports, “Henry is not and never will be suitable for you. We Finches do not marry children of rednecked white trash.” Everyone knew that Henry’s parents were “Trash” and, “Fine boy as he is, the trash won’t wash out of him.”

Jean Louise meets the women of the town and finds them downright boring as they gossip about small town behavior. “I saw the cu-ut-est...” “...toilet training should really begin when...” “...and laugh, I thought I’d die...”

Speaking with Aunt Alexandra, Jean Louis declares all too frankly what she sees in Maycomb. She visits Calpurnia, the always-loving mother substitute and family cook of Scout’s childhood, who is now elderly. She is forced to realize that much has changed in the South: this time, Calpurnia barely speaks to her, and there was no love in her eyes, only granite coldness.

Worse, when Jean Louise attends the new Citizens Council, which acted as an upscale replace-

ment for the Ku Klux Klan, she sees her father and Henry sitting one on either side of a known former Klansman, whose anti-negro statements seemed not to bother anyone else, but made her feel sick.

Jean Louise confronts her father, declaring him a bigot and the worst kind of racist. She is about to return to New York, but decides instead to talk with Uncle Jack, to see if he can explain Atticus’s repulsive ideas and behavior.

Atticus had already telephoned his brother, so Jack knew before she arrived that Jean Louise had been screaming epithets and worse at her father. Jack declares **her** the bigot. Surprised, she opens her uncle’s dictionary to read “someone obstinately or intolerantly devoted to his own [belief] or opinion.” Jack adds that bigots don’t listen, they just lash out, exactly as she has done to her own father.

In addition, Jack declares, “As you grew up... you confused your father with God. You never saw him as a man with a man’s heart and a man’s failings.” She should let him have his own beliefs. If he doesn’t want Negro youth to attend school with the white children, Jean Louise should let him have his opinions and she should keep her own.

Atticus is **not** a bigot, because he listens to everyone’s ideas whether or not he agrees with them. Jean Louise on the other hand, just shouts in anger when she disagrees with someone, especially those who are close to her.

As I read, I found I had to agree with Jack, and came to see Atticus as a good man doing the best he can in troubling circumstances. I disagree with those who wrote ambivalent reviews. I am a northerner who found this book helpful in understanding what it might be like for someone like me to have grown up in the South.

*Opinions in this review are personal and do not necessarily represent those of the League.*

## Unit Meetings

League unit meetings (small discussion groups) generally do not meet during the summer and will resume in September. The exception is the First Hill Unit which will meet on Monday, July 11 and August 8 at 10:30 a.m. at Horizon House, 900 University St, Seattle.

Check the September *Voter*, which will come out in late August, or contact the unit leader for the location, date, and time of upcoming meetings. LWVS-KC unit meetings are free and open to the public. Each month, units discuss a topic which corresponds to the monthly forum or study; the *Voter* for the month provides discussion materials. We encourage League members to join any convenient unit; see list below. The information below is current as of publication. Please check the September *Voter* for possible updates in unit leadership or contact information.

### Daytime Units:

BALLARD/MAGNOLIA/QUEEN ANNE DAY – Alice Peterson  
peterson-alice-jack@msn.com, 206-524-5530

BELLEVUE/KIRKLAND/REDMOND – Bonnie Rimawi  
bonnierim@aol.com, 425-820-7127

FIRST HILL – Adele Reynolds  
adelereynolds@netscape.net, 206-621-4867

ISSAQUAH DAY – Margaret Austin  
margaret.austin@comcast.net, 425-392-5760

MERCER ISLAND - Cynthia Howe  
howe.john@comcast.net, 206-236-0593

NORTH CENTRAL SEATTLE– Jan Orlando  
orlanre@aol.com, 206-524-0936

NORTH EAST SEATTLE – Kay Beck  
kbeck25@comcast.net, 206-523-3127

NORTH KING COUNTY – Judy Deiro  
judy.deiro@gmail.com, 425-774-1492

SOUTHEAST KING COUNTY/ENUMCLAW - Cathy Dormaier  
lcathy@skynetbb.com, 360-802-6799

UNIVERSITY HOUSE/WALLINGFORD  
info@seattlelwv.org, 206-329-4848

WEST SEATTLE – Ethel Williams & Pat Lane  
etheljw@comcast.net, 206-932-7887  
plain11@juno.com, 206-932-1578

Evening Units:

CAPITOL HILL/MONTLAKE  
info@seattlelwv.org, 206-329-4848

QUEEN ANNE/MAGNOLIA/BALLARD EVENING - Kathy Pugh & Marlis Worthington  
ckp1966@comcast.net, 503-580-1240  
marliswrt@hotmail.com, 206-283-7147

SOUTHEND SEATTLE - Marian Wolfe & Vivian Montoya  
hedgwolfe@aol.com, 206-763-9430  
montoyaviv@yahoo.com, 206-695-2620

SOUTHWEST KING COUNTY – Kathy Jorgensen  
kjorgensen@juno.com, 253-859-8349

## Board & Committee Contacts

### Term Executive Committee

2015-17	<i>President</i>	Amanda Clark	206-329-4848	president@seattlelwv.org
2016-18	<i>1st VP</i>	Pat Griffith	206-285-2452	pgseattle@q.com
2015-17	<i>2nd VP</i>	Janet Winans	206-550-6483	janetwinans@earthlink.net
2016-17	<i>Secretary</i>	Zara Kublin	206-329-4848	zkublin@hotmail.com
2016-17	<i>Treasurer</i>	Linda Snider	206-329-4848	treasurer@seattlelwv.org

### Directors

2016-18	<i>Action</i>	Robin Brown	206-329-4848	bvlbrown@gmail.com
2016-18	<i>Outreach</i>	Stephanie Cirkovich	206-329-4848	cirkovich@gmail.com
2016-18	<i>Membership</i>	Becky Cox	206-329-4848	cgcox@nwlink.com
2016-18	<i>Program</i>	Abigail Doerr	206-329-4848	abigail.doerr@gmail.com
2015-17	<i>Voter Editor</i>	Katie Dudley	206-329-4848	votereditor@seattlelwv.org
2016-18	<i>Development</i>	Kiku Hayashi	206-329-4848	zkublin@hotmail.com
2016-17	<i>Asst. Treasurer</i>	Gaby Metzger	206-329-4848	gabymetz@comcast.net

*Note: All board members listed above are also members of the Education Fund Board*

### Education Fund Officers

2015-17	<i>President</i>	Amanda Clark	206-329-4848	president@seattlelwv.org
2016-18	<i>1st VP</i>	Pat Griffith	206-285-2452	pgseattle@q.com
2015-17	<i>2nd VP</i>	Janet Winans	206-329-4848	janetwinans@earthlink.net
2016-17	<i>Secretary</i>	Zara Kublin	206-329-4848	zkublin@hotmail.com
2016-17	<i>Treasurer</i>	Joanna Cullen	206-329-4848	eftreasurer@seattlelwv.org

### Nominating Committee

2016-17	<i>Chair</i>	Nancy Eitreim	206-329-4848	nancey eitreim@gmail.com
2016-17		Paneen Davidson	206-329-4848	paneenie@gmail.com
2016-17		Judy Love	206-329-4848	judy steveL@gmail.com

*Two board members will be appointed to serve on the nominating committee.*

### Off Board Positions

Campaign Finance	Jean Carlson	206-774-6649	carlson.jean@gmail.com
CIS Coordinator	Cynthia Howe	206-236-0593	howe.john@comcast.net

### Committees

<i>LWVWA Carbon Emissions Red.</i>	Judy Bevington		gbeving@eskimo.com
<i>Economics &amp; Taxation</i>	Nora Leech		nleech2002@yahoo.com
<i>Education</i>	Joanna Cullen	206-329-8514	jfoxcullen@gmail.com
<i>International Relations</i>	Carol Goldenberg		carolsamgo1@gmail.com
<i>Transportation</i>	Janet Winans	206-550-6483	janetwinans@earthlink.net
<i>Waterfront</i>	Nancy & Charles Bagley	206-282-1578	candn bagley@comcast.net

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Call the League office at (206) 329-4848 or  
email [info@seattlelwv.org](mailto:info@seattlelwv.org)

**LWV SEATTLE-KING COUNTY:**

Candidate Forums

Tuesday, July 12  
12:15 - 1:45 pm  
Microsoft Auditorium  
Seattle Public Library  
1000 4th Ave, Seattle

Candidates for Lt. Governor

Saturday, July 16  
10:30 - 12:00 pm  
Council Chamber  
Shoreline City Hall  
17500 Midvale Ave N  
Shoreline, WA 98133

Candidates for 7th Congr'l Dist.