



# Seattle Voter

FEBRUARY 2008

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## A Regional Approach to Municipal Water Management

By Denise Smith

Fresh water is a crucial resource for our well being and the economic vitality of our region. Maintaining a sustainable supply of water is paramount for us as individuals as well as for the community and region. Since the establishment of the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, the League of Women Voters has been involved in water issues at national, state and local levels.

Seattle League members have participated in the League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA) Water Use and Efficiency Study 1989-1991, the LWVWA Water Rights study of 1995 and Groundwater study of 1996, as well as in the King County Regional Water Purveyors water update of 1998. We have also had representatives on local Watershed Inventory Area (WRIA) planning committees, Groundwater Advisory Committees, the Washington State Department of Health Water Supply Advisory Committee and the Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers Forum Demand Forecast Advisory Committee and Supply Assessment Advisory Committee.

In 2006 the State League authorized a two-phase water study, and the Seattle League participated by holding a forum February 2007 on the statewide issues of Municipal Water Law and the Columbia River Management Plan. Local units discussed the impact of these statewide plans on their water districts and water use. The second phase of the state water study was to be a look at local water issues.

In the 1998 Regional Water Purveyors Water Update, members of the Seattle and Lake Washington East Leagues studied water resources and governance structure for water systems in King County. That study was initiated in part due to changes proposed for water systems in King County. At that time, the Seattle Water wholesale customers

*This month we will take a close look at local water resource management, planning, and cooperation between water jurisdictions.*

sought to form an independent entity to contract as a block with Seattle and eventually secure alternate water supplies. In 1999 the Cascade Water Alliance was established by interlocal agreement between eight municipalities and water districts. It currently serves over 370,000 residents and 22,000 businesses in King County.

Another issue on the horizon in 1998 was the Endangered Species listing of Puget Sound Chinook salmon and the response to that listing. The Salmon Recovery Act (RCW 77.85) of 1999 created the grassroots, local watershed planning process to identify salmon recovery actions which include setting and meeting instream flow requirements (the amount of water required to remain in the stream after water has been allocated for out of stream use). Seattle's Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan was another important response to potential listings under ESA.

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## President's Message

Welcome back from the winter holidays and to the beginning of a busy and exciting 2008. Fortunately, during these first two winter weeks the League office is relatively quiet. We anticipate filling the position of office manager very soon; we have received many impressive applications and the hiring committee has begun interviewing. In the mean time, I am learning the fine points of keeping our office running smoothly with the help of a great board and dedicated CIS volunteers.



Denise D. Smith

Our Seattle League is gearing up for a busy spring, with activities on local as well as national issues. Locally we are preparing for the state legislative session that begins on January 14. We look forward to a stimulating Lobby Day in Olympia on February 1, 2008, and encourage you to join the Seattle contingent. The agenda and registration are included in this voter. We will be collecting names at the office to help facilitate carpooling.

Our 2008 *They Represent You* (the "TRY"), the guide to elected officials which the Seattle League updates and distributes every year, will be compiled as soon as the current legislative contacts are available; it will be ready for distribution in the beginning of February. We appreciate the donations to the Education fund already received for this important community resource and assure you it is not too late to donate.

### Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters of Seattle, 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.

On the National front, as Sir Conan Doyle's legendary character would say, "the game is afoot". Results from the Iowa caucuses have enlivened the discussions for the political analysts. On the *Washington Week* broadcast 1/4/07, Gwen Ifill ended by saying "we could not have asked for more." Indeed, from a detached observer's perspective this is exciting stuff, not too different from other TV entertainment or sports. But it is not entertainment or sports, it is the serious business of government and our future and that of our children. As the vintage League bumper sticker says, "democracy is not a spectator sport."

We League members have a responsibility to help focus the discussions in the upcoming elections. The article on framing the issue in our October 2007 *Voter* explains that there are different ways to interpret an event. We must help keep the focus on real priorities by asking questions and helping voters focus on issues. We have included in this issue a League brochure entitled *How to Pick a Candidate*. We encourage you to remove it from the *Voter* and share it with friends and neighbors.

### Diversity Policy

The League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS), 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 recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making. LWVS 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 affirms its commitment to reflecting the diversity of Americans in its membership, board, staff and programs.

# February

**Lobby Day**

Friday, February 1  
9:00a.m.-2:30p.m.  
Columbia Room, Capital Building, Olympia

**Board meeting**

Saturday, February 2  
9:00 a.m.

**Seattle Voter deadline**

Monday, February 4

**Social Justice Committee**

Monday, February 4  
6:00 p.m.  
League Office

**International Relations Committee**

Monday, February 4  
12:45 – 2:45 p.m.  
League Office

**Forum:Water Resources: The State of the Region**

Thursday, February 7  
7:30 p.m.  
Seattle First Baptist Church

**WA State Party Caucuses**

Saturday, February 9

**Civics Education Committee**

Tuesday, February 12  
4:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
League Office

**Membership Strategic Planning Committee**

Tuesday, February 12  
5:30 p.m.  
League Office

**President's Day**

Monday, February 18  
Office Closed

**League's birthday**

February 14

**WA state Presidential Primary**

Tuesday, February 19

**Immigration Committee**

Wednesday, February 20  
9:00 a.m.  
League Office

**Economics and Taxation committee**

Saturday, February 23  
9:00 a.m.  
909 E. Newton #D9

**Land Use Committee**

Thursday, February 28  
12:30 – 2:30 p.m.  
Park Shore Building

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					Lobby Day 9:00 am	Board meeting 9:00 am
3	IR Committee 12:45 pm SJ Committee 6:00 pm	5	6	Forum:Water Resources: The State of the Region 7:30 pm	8	WA State Party Caucuses
10	11	12 Civics Education Committee 4 pm Mmbrshp Strategic Plan. Comm. 5:30 pm	13	14 League's Birthday	15	16
17	18 President's Day Office Closed	19 WA state Presidential Primary	20 Immigration Committee 9:00 am	21	22	23 Economics and Taxation committee 9:00 am
24	25	26	27	28 Land Use Committee 12:30 pm	29	

# March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Board meeting 9:00 am
2	3 Seattle Voter deadline	4	5	6 Get to Know League Dinner 5:30 pm Forum 7:30 pm	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

# January Board Briefs

By Karen Adair, Secretary

## Membership Report

We have 801 members (735 in good standing). This is the month that we “crunch the numbers” to send our annual membership totals to National.

Save the date for the LWVWA Good in Government Brunch on Saturday, March 8. Seattle League member Lael Braymer is being honored.

## Program

The January 3 forum went well. Displaying energy and enthusiasm, attendees came up with many good ideas for local and national program planning. Unit leaders received a summary of the evening’s discussions to use to start further program planning discussions at unit meetings.

The Board approved the compilation of the units’ responses on the LWVUS Immigration Study. This report will be sent to National.

Jan O’Connor was approved as chair of the Surface Water Management Study.

## Action

With King County South League, LWVS sent a letter to the King County Executive stating that we believe there is no reason to rush to approve the Shoreline Management Plan right now, as the County seems to be doing, and that approval at this time would cut off anything decided in upcoming state Supreme court cases or by this years legislative action.

## Announcements

Victoria Bennett encouraged Board members to fill out volunteer time sheets. Gathering the number of volunteer hours for our organization is important for grant applications and for recognition of those who put in many hours of service to the League.

## Give a League Membership!

The gift of membership to the League of Women Voters is an excellent way to introduce friends and family to issues that matter to everyone living in the Puget Sound area. Since the beginning, the League of Women Voters has believed that active and informed citizens are vital to the health of democracy. Help support the League’s mission by giving an annual membership to someone you care about.

Simply fill out the coupon below and return it to the League office with dues payment of \$50. We will send a welcome letter and certificate to the new member(s).

Recipient Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Recipient Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Committee Meetings

### International Relations Committee

Date: Monday, February 4  
Time: 12:45 – 2:45 p.m.  
Place: League Office

We will be polishing our report on the UN's Millennium Development Goals to cut poverty, improve maternal health, and increase literacy, among other things. Our project will culminate in April 2008 in a report and forum. New members are welcome. E-mail Ellen Berg ([ellenzberg@msn.com](mailto:ellenzberg@msn.com)) to find out more.

The date for the February evening meeting is undecided; contact Ellen Berg for more information.

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### Social Justice Committee

Date: Monday, February 4  
Time: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.  
Place: League Office

The Social Justice Committee meets on the first Monday of the month. The starting time has been changed from 5:30 to 6:00 p.m. At the February meeting, the committee will set committee goals for the upcoming year, evaluate meeting on a different day, discuss a possible public meeting with elected officials on homelessness and continue to review upcoming legislative issues, particularly as they pertain to housing for people leaving homelessness.

### Civics Education Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 12  
Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
Place: League Office

The Civics Education Committee is working on a number of projects to reinforce civics education and promote State funding for civics education. Join us to make decisions and implement projects that will educate youth on civics issues. For information contact Jaclyn Wall at [speakingstrategies@hotmail.com](mailto:speakingstrategies@hotmail.com)

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### Membership Strategic Planning Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 12  
Time: 5:30 pm  
Place: League office

For information, email Kitty at [membership@seattlelwv.org](mailto:membership@seattlelwv.org) or leave a message for Kitty at 206-329-4848.

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### Economics and Taxation Committee

Date: Saturday, February 23  
Time: 9:00 a.m.  
Place: 909 E. Newton #D9

For more information, please leave a message for Nora Leech at 206-329-4848.

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### Immigration Committee

Date: Wednesday, February 20  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Place: League Office

### Land Use Committee

Date: Thursday, February 28  
Time: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Place: Park Shore Building at  
1630 43rd Ave. East  
(in Madison Park)

Although it is extremely limited, free parking is available on site and along adjacent streets, plus the #11 bus provides service to Madison Park. Bus stops to enter and depart the neighborhood are located within a half-block to one block of Park Shore.

This month the Land Use Committee will recap results of the January meeting with Leaguer Christal Wood and other volunteers who are working on a new Port of Seattle study. Additionally, discussion will focus on the proposed privatization of a portion of land (where the historic officers housing is located) in Discovery Park. For further information, please leave a message for Karen Kane at 206-329-4848.

## Office Closed President's Day

The Seattle League Office will be closed on President's Day, February 18.

## Announcements

### CIS Volunteers Wanted!

Do you want to get more involved in your community? Want to be on the front lines in getting to know how the League works, who comes in the door, how to answer questions from the public? We have just the place for you! Come learn how to answer phones on either a regular, three-hour shift during the week, or on an as-needed basis. It's fun! Please leave a message for Cynthia Howe at 206-329-4848, or email [howe.john@comcast.net](mailto:howe.john@comcast.net)



*Cris Kantor answers the phone at the CIS desk*

### Help With Get To Know League Dinner

The next Get to Know League Dinner will take place on Thursday, March 6 at St. Andrews Church in Bellevue, before the Women's History Forum. There are many ways to help with this event, including setting up, providing food, and welcoming new members. If you would like to participate, please email [membership@seattlelwv.org](mailto:membership@seattlelwv.org) or leave a message at 206-329-4848.

### Come To A Brainstorming Session On Fundraising

We are planning a fundraising meeting at the League office in February. Please come and help us brainstorm – we are looking for new ideas and new energy. The meeting will be scheduled for a time and date that is convenient for everyone who wants to participate. Please RSVP to [paula98103@hotmail.com](mailto:paula98103@hotmail.com) or leave a message for Paula at 206-329-4848.

### 2008 Civic Awards: Call for Nominations

The Municipal League of King County is calling for nominations for its annual Civic Awards to honor those who are working to improve the community.

Each year the Muni League solicits nominations from the public. Nominees are evaluated by the Muni League's Civic Awards Committee, which makes a recommendation on each award for approval by the Municipal League board.

The Municipal League created the Civic Awards in 1960. Honorees represent a diverse array of civic and community leadership who have given exemplary service in working toward better government, improving the policy process or increasing civic participation.

Award categories and nomination forms are available on the Muni League's website at [www.munileague.org](http://www.munileague.org) or by contacting the office at 206-622-8333. Winners will be announced on March 18, 2008.

The 2008 Civic Awards will be held at the Seattle Art Museum Olympic Sculpture Park in the PACCAR Pavilion on April 24, 2008 from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets will be on sale on March 10, 2008.

### Voter Delivery Problems? Let Us Know.

Some members have informed us that their Voters have been arriving incomplete recently. We hope that we have solved the problem with this issue. Please let us know if your Voter is missing any of its contents, or if you hear of anyone who is still not getting a complete issue.

**SAVE THE DATE -****Good In Government Brunch****Saturday, March 8**

The 2008 League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA) Good In Government Brunch, to be held on International Women's Day, March 8, will both honor women's current contributions to good government and highlight work yet to be done.

Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, co-founder and executive director of MomsRising, has been chosen to receive the 2008 LWVWA Good In Government Award. The award will be presented at the GIG Brunch, Saturday, March 8, 10:00 – 12:00, at the Bell Harbor Conference Center, Seattle.

Rowe-Finkbeiner, a Kirkland resident, together with MomsRising co-founder Joan Blades, has demonstrated the power of using technology to stimulate people to civic engagement. They have created an online grassroots movement "with a goal of bringing millions of people, who all share a common concern about the need to build a more family-friendly America, together as a non-partisan force for 2008 and beyond."

Each year for this award the LWVWA selects persons who have made outstanding contributions toward achieving good government. In announcing the award, LWVWA President Barbara Seitle stated, "The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends on the informed and active participation of its citizens. MomsRising embodies this principle and brings voice to a series of issues vital to America, so we feel it is especially appropriate that we honor Kristin's efforts."

**Margaret Larson To Be Good In Government Speaker**

The featured speaker at the brunch will be Margaret Larson, veteran broadcast journalist and former VP of Communications for Mercy Corps. Larson will focus on "The Status of Women Around the World: How Women Can Help Women Build a Better World." As a volunteer and board member for Mercy Corps, Larson spent ten years traveling to Lebanon, Albania, Macedonia, the Pakistan-Afghanistan border and Iraq. As an overseas correspondent, she covered the Persian Gulf War, the Kurdish refugee crisis in northern Iraq, Typhoon Thelma in the Philippines, British and Eastern European elections, and many other international developments.

**Lael Braymer To Be Honored**

Seattle League member, Lael Braymer, will also be recognized at the brunch by the LWVWA Education Fund Board for her years of service to League and the Ed. Fund. Lael has been a League member since 1974 and has contributed immensely to the League.

**Pegasus**

The Pegasus sculpture created by Emerald House Artists has flown to the League Office entryway. He is hoping that he can fly to many entryways and tell the community about the non-profit group Circle of Friends for Mental Health, a group that declares that "Arts Build Health" and proceeds to make it happen. For four years the group has brought classes in arts, drama, music, drumming, creative writing and various other endeavors to various sites. The small steps are greatly appreciated by this mostly shy, gentle group of people who often have just \$58 a month spending money. I asked an intelligent friend who has worked with the group, "How would you describe these people?" "Courageous" was his response. As I've come to know the artists, I do heartedly agree. Imaging rising every day with a life-long illness that probably began between the ages of 15 and 25, which requires difficult medicines, causes you to be sneered at and made the butt of many jokes, and often results in expulsion from the family. To get up takes courage as you work to find a real life.

Pegasus gives us an opportunity to show our fun and creativity. Several places have contacted us already to show our paintings, drawings and photography. Leave your name if you want to know more about us. You can contact Carolyn at hale700@hotmail.com or leave a message for Anita at 206-329-4848. Visit our website at [www.cofmentalhealth.org](http://www.cofmentalhealth.org). Have you any ideas where Pegasus should land next?

## Update: LWVS Education Fundraising!

By Nancy Eitreim, Education Fund President

**A**s *They Represent You 2008*, the incomparable, extraordinary and uniquely League product, is being prepared for printing, I want to thank Betty Sullivan for her leadership on the project and update members on the progress of fundraising for the Education Fund.

Donations are coming in nearly every day. We are excited by the number of contributions from 10 to 3,000 dollars. Thanks to all who are giving as you are able, stretching a bit and giving to the Ed Fund for the first time. Many small donations show support for the Fund, and added together they are important to the health of the organization. If you haven't written a check yet, please consider a donation today.

To date, 135 donations have been received from members and friends. Several made contributions from their IRA accounts. We have raised a total of \$20,000 since the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, 2007. The goal as outlined in our fundraising letter is a minimum of \$57,000 to meet the 2008 budget.

Individuals, organizations, and corporations who contributed between January, 2007, when the previous edition was published, and January 10, 2008 will be listed as sponsors in the TRY.

Included among the major sponsors will be American Express, Microsoft and Boeing. Seattle is one of the targeted markets for funds from American Express. A grant of at least \$6K will be awarded to LWVSEF for 2008 Voter Service activities. The grant will be passed through from LWVUS Ed Fund and funded by a substantial grant received from American Express. Microsoft and Boeing contributed in calendar year 2007 after the printing deadline for the 2007 edition. King County reimbursed \$4,000 of the printing expense.

### 2007 TOTALS

Fundraising totals for calendar year 2007 amounted to nearly \$60K. The Ed Fund reimbursed LWVS for expenses of Voter Service and Program development and forums as well as for a 30% share of the operating and administrative expenses (staff, rent, postage, etc.). This amount came to over \$50,000 and was paid to LWVS as billed June 30, 2007.

## Great Decisions Discussions to Begin

**A** third Great Decisions 2008 discussion group has been added to Seattle League's program offerings. Karen Lahey of the Issaquah unit will be hosting an evening discussion group tentatively on Monday evenings. Leave a message for Karen or check with Denise at 206-329-4848.

Mercer Island Great Decisions discussions will commence on February 5. Please leave a message for Susie Anschell at 206-329-4848 for details.

Seattle League member Vicky Downs will host a group at her Capitol Hill home beginning on February 5. Please leave a message for Vicky or Carol Goldenberg at 206-329-4848.

You may order your 2008 Great Decisions Briefing book from the Foreign Policy Association by telephone at 1-800 477-5836, or online at [www.greatdecisions.org](http://www.greatdecisions.org). The price of the book is \$18.00.

### TOPICS FOR 2008 ARE:

- Iraq: Endgame
- The European Union at 50
- Talking to Our Enemies
- Russia
- U.S. Defense and Security Policy
- Latin America: Shift to the Left?
- U.S.-China trade Policy
- Private Philanthropy

# SPRING INTO ACTION FOR THE NEW ELECTION YEAR

By Patti Catalano

**2008** has hit and it's time to make plans and spring into action, League-wise. January meetings were spent on program planning, as we proposed issues to study at both the national and local levels. Now is a good time to make sure you are signed up for action alerts on the National ([www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)) and State League ([www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org)) websites. Both lists serve as quick ways to keep us up to date and prompt us into action on the many happenings in our state and federal governing bodies.

2008 is also an important election year, as we assess the candidates to identify the one person whose qualities and abilities we feel most closely match those we look for in a president. National League President Mary G. Wilson has called for change in the Presidential Public Financing process; she praised the introduction of the bipartisan Presidential Funding Act of 2007, saying in a December 5 press release that "The next president should come into office on the strength of public funds, not private donations primarily from wealthy donors and special interest bundlers." The new bill will address the higher costs of campaigning—it is predicted the spending will amount to over a billion dollars for this election—as well as the increasingly front-loaded campaigning we see today. The campaigning for this presidential election has already gone on so long that a friend just told me she was tired of it, with eleven months to go until the election!

What will be the hot button issues in 2008? Will fearmongering continue to be a powerful tool, as it was in 2004? A recent article in *Newsweek* explores "The Roots of Fear" in politics. According to this article, "Half a century of research has shown that fear is one of the most politically powerful emotions a candidate can tap, especially when those fears have a basis in reality." The article explains the science behind a new book by Drew Weston of Emory University, *The Political Brain: The Role of Emotion in Deciding the Fate of the Nation*. There is a reason fear is so powerful — the hard-wiring of our brain has created a one way path from the amygdala, near the center of the brain, which is responsible for our "flight or fight response", to the neocortex that involves higher-order

thinking. This allows fear to override reason. It works as a protective survival mechanism for humans and it is easily exploitable by candidates running for office.

Fearmongering, which has been heavily used since September 11, 2001, is responsible for increasing inroads into our civil liberties. Our National League Office continues to take stands against these inroads.

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*"...fear is one of the most politically powerful emotions a candidate can tap..."*

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For example, in December it sent out an action alert calling for the Senate to reconsider the Protect America Act, which gave new surveillance powers to the Executive Branch. Recently, when I called family in the United States from an office in Spain that offered international phone services, I wondered

who might be on the phone besides my mother and myself. It wasn't paranoia, just an acknowledgement that the Protect America Act allows warrantless wiretapping of American citizens. Would I have been more secure using my own phone? No, because the telecommunications companies can provide information on our records with impunity.

The National League Office also continues to fight the strict Indiana voter identification law that the Supreme Court has begun reviewing. The League is putting faces and names to the people who will be hurt by this law. A recent article in *USA Today* reported the League's involvement.

So when your amygdala says, "Be afraid, be very afraid," listen to it. It may be telling you that one very real fear is that your civil liberties are being eroded by your own elected officials. Make them responsible for reinstating them by studying the issues, signing up for your National and State League's Action Alerts, and making your voice heard through email, telephone and the ballot. We started off our League year planning; now you must plan how to take action on the issues that are important to you as an individual.

## SOURCES:

Begley, Sharon, "The Roots of Fear," *Newsweek*, December 24, 2007.

Biskupic, Joan, "Voter ID Case Could Affect Election Laws," *USA Today*, January 6, 2007.

League of Women Voters National Website [lwv.org](http://lwv.org)

**LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**  
**LOBBY DAY**  
**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2008**  
**COLUMBIA ROOM, CAPITAL BUILDING, OLYMPIA**

Observe the action; be part of the action! Three weeks after the legislature goes into session, we should have a good sense of what (and who) we need to work on.

We're trying some new things this year to give you more time to spend meeting with your legislators, attending hearings, or observing floor action. The tentative schedule is:

- ▶ 8:30-9:15 Coffee and Donuts with our legislators in the Columbia Room. All representatives and senators will receive an invitation to this informal "mingle" from President Barbara Seitle and you can add a personal invitation of your own when you make the appointment to meet with them.
- ▶ 9:15-10:30 Invited: the House Speaker and Minority Leader and Senate Majority and Minority Leaders to address us about the session
- ▶ 10:30-11:00 We'll sort out the issues.
- ▶ 11:00 With **talking point papers\*** and **legislative appointment report forms\*** well in hand and **LWV buttons\*** proudly displayed, we will all descend on the legislature!
- ▶ 12:00-1:30 Box lunches will be available in the Columbia Room
- ▶ 2:30 We will officially adjourn at 2:30. Before then, you can return to the Columbia Room and turn in your report forms. A summary of our Lobby Day efforts will be published in the Spring Voter.

\*these materials will be available when you register

LWV Thurston County will host the event and will once again offer B & B facilities in members' homes for those Leaguers wishing to come to Olympia on Thursday. The charge for the B & B is \$10. Contact Marilyn Funk at [bfmz@comcast.net](mailto:bfmz@comcast.net) or call 360-357-7967.

Circle February 1 on your calendar, and complete and send in the registration form below with your check for \$20 (includes lunch).

**Let's make a lot of noise!!! We really do matter, but only if we show up and speak out.**

✂

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**LOBBY DAY REGISTRATION    Friday, February 1, 2008**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks for \$20.00 payable to LWVWA. Mail with this form to LWVWA, 4710 University Way, # 214, Seattle, WA 98105.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JANUARY 29, 2008. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED.**

## Lobby for Civics Education Funding

At the State Convention in June the League passed a Civics Education Resolution to support appropriation requests for the development and implementation of Classroom Based Assessments (CBA's) at three grade levels on civics topics. Now you have an opportunity to take action on this resolution. Attend Lobby Day in Olympia on February 1 and speak to your legislators about passing the \$1 million budget request from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) that includes funds for Civics Education. These funds will enable teacher training on the CBA's so Washington students will gain greater understanding of government and what it means to be a good citizen.

Key legislature support comes from Representative Pat Lantz (D-26th), as well as Senator Rodney Tom, and Representatives Ross Hunter and Dave Upthegrove.

On Lobby day tell your legislators to support the OSPI budget request that includes Civics Education Funding.



### Poll Workers

Behind every election are thousands of people who ensure a smooth and proper operation at the polls. This trusted position is ideal for anyone who would like to get a first-hand look at how our system works, and provide neighbors with the opportunity to vote. King County is hiring 1,000 poll workers to staff the polls on Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2008. Poll workers are paid \$126 to work on election day. To be a part of the poll worker team, call 206-296-1606 or go to [www.kingcounty.gov/elections](http://www.kingcounty.gov/elections) and complete the online form. Thank you.

## 2008 Citizens Budget Conference

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 12-5 P.M.

Seattle Center House  
Third Floor Conference Rooms

Sponsored By Seattle's City Neighborhood Council, In Cooperation With The City Council, The Departments Of Finance And Neighborhoods, And Seattle Center

Get in at the beginning as the City of Seattle kicks off its two-year budget process! Find out why budgeting matters to you and how to get involved in the decisions that affect your neighborhood. Join the Mayor, City Council members, and representatives of many City departments in dialogue about Seattle's revenue and spending priorities.

This conference begins with a welcome from the Mayor and ends with a discussion by City Council members on how to get budget results. In between are panel presentations or staffed tables from City agencies large and small, including the Police and Fire Departments, Department of Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Transportation, Department of Human Services, Seattle Center, Seattle Public Library, Department of Neighborhoods, City Light, and Seattle Public Utilities.

Only once every two years can you meet on budget issues with such a wide range of Seattle officials. Open to the public and free of charge. Don't miss the Citizens Budget Conference—Sunday, February 10, noon to 5 p.m. at Seattle Center House!

For further information: [seattle.gov/neighborhoodcouncil](http://seattle.gov/neighborhoodcouncil), 206-322-5463, [cleman@oo.net](mailto:cleman@oo.net), or [rjboddie\\_2@msn.com](mailto:rjboddie_2@msn.com). The City Neighborhood Council is an official City of Seattle advisory body, composed of one representative from each of the thirteen district councils.

# Caucuses and the Presidential Primary

by Victoria Bennett, Voter Services Chair

Attention locally is being focused on the upcoming caucuses and Presidential Primary in which American voters will seek a presidential candidate that best reflects their political priorities. For the first time since 1952, no candidate is serving currently as either the President or the Vice President of the United States. Voters have the opportunity to help determine who will represent the major political parties in the November election for President.

## Precinct caucuses

In Washington State, two tools are used to influence the final choice of candidate. The first one is the political caucus. On Saturday, February 9, 2008, at 1:00 p.m., both the Democratic and Republican Parties will hold precinct caucuses. Attending caucuses allows neighbors to bring the selection of national candidates and party platforms to a local level. Though each precinct will have its own caucus, several precincts will often meet at a common site such as a neighborhood school. Voters armed with research gleaned from sources such as candidate Web sites, debates, articles, party literature and rating organizations will select delegates to the county and/or district convention and suggest planks for their party's platform. New voters often think they must be invited to a precinct caucus, but that is not the case. The Democrats allow voters to take part as long as they are registered to vote before or at the caucus and sign an oath to declare a party affiliation; 17-year olds may join in if they will be 18 years old by the date of the general election. Those participating in Republican precinct caucuses must be registered voters by the date of the caucus and must declare their party affiliation. Both parties allow observers.

The Democratic and Republican Parties differ in how their caucuses are governed. At the Democratic caucus, those supporting a specific candidate will gather together to tout their candidate's strengths in an effort to persuade others to vote for their choice. After some time has elapsed, a straw vote will be taken to see which candidates can prove their viability by attracting at least 15% of the votes. Voters supporting a candidate who doesn't meet the 15% threshold can work with

the supporters of another unviable candidate to see whether one of the two can gain enough votes to secure a delegate. Alternatively, they can throw their support to a viable candidate. Voters may thus have the opportunity to help second choice candidates in a caucus situation. A voter also can abstain from choosing a candidate.

Once the voters have had a chance to align themselves with a viable candidate, the final vote

is taken. If five delegates are being elected, candidates receiving over 15% of the vote will receive a proportionate number of delegates. Thus, if Candidate A receives 58% of the vote, Candidate B receives 23% of the vote, and Candidate C receives 19% of the vote, Candidate A will be awarded three delegates while Candidates B and C will receive one delegate each. These

delegates will carry on to the next level where the same process will winnow the field further. By the time the delegates reach the national convention, the field of candidates has been narrowed significantly.

At the Republican Party precinct caucuses, each delegate elected to go to the next level must win 50% plus 1 of the caucus participants' votes. As stated in the Green Papers (see [www.thegreenpapers.com/P08/WA-R.phtml](http://www.thegreenpapers.com/P08/WA-R.phtml)), "There is no formal system applied in the Precinct Caucuses to relate the presidential preference of the Caucus participants to the choice of the precinct's delegates. The participants at each Precinct Caucus alone determine if presidential preference is to be a factor in such choice and, if so, how it is to be applied." Delegates elected at the precinct level are not bound to vote for the candidates they represent.

Caucuses have met with criticism for several reasons. Low turnout can result in skewed results. In terms of the vote itself, the nature of the process precludes a simple popular vote. The length of a caucus (often at least two hours) prevents some voters from attending. As absentee voting is prohibited, those serving overseas in the military are unable to have a say in the process. Because there is no voting by secret ballot, participants may be railroaded into supporting a certain candidate.

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*As long as voters participate in the caucus and primary affiliated with the same party, they may take part in both processes.*

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### Presidential Primaries

Responding to these concerns, a law (RCW 29A.56.010) requiring a Presidential Primary was adopted in 1989. At the time, it was felt that the caucus system catered to political insiders. As noted in the law, the primary was designed to make it easier for “the elderly, the infirm, women, the disabled, evening workers, and others who are unable to attend caucuses and therefore unable to fully participate in this most important quadrennial event that occurs in our democratic system of government” to take part in choosing a candidate for President. Washington State voters can participate in the Presidential Primary that will be held on Tuesday, February 19, 2008.

To appear on the Presidential Primary ballot, candidates must belong to a major political party, defined under state law (RCW 29A.04.086) as “a political party of which at least one nominee for president, vice president, United States senator, or a statewide office received at least five percent of the total vote cast at the last preceding state general election in an even-numbered year.” The Washington Secretary of State must determine that a candidate is generally supported or acknowledged in the national media and specify that s/he appear on the ballot. Also, if at least 1,000 political party members sign a petition in favor of a candidate and file it at least 60 days before the primary, that candidate will be placed on the ballot.

Voters who choose to vote in the Presidential Primary may vote only for one party. They must sign an oath provided by the political parties affirming that they have not taken part in a competing party’s caucus. The names of those voters who support a given party in the primary will be forwarded to that party.

As long as voters participate in the caucus and primary affiliated with the same party, they may take part in both processes. It is up to the parties to decide how they will use the caucuses and the primary to apportion delegates to the national nominating conventions. Currently, the state Republican Party will use the Presidential Primary to apportion 19 of its 40 delegates; caucus results at the state level will determine the allocation of 18 of its delegates. The remaining 3 delegates will be filled by party officials. The state Democratic Party will not allocate delegates based on the results of the Presidential Primary. Delegates will mostly be chosen through the caucus system with a few delegate positions reserved for party officials.

With so many candidates for President running this year, the caucuses and Presidential primary will serve as a special inducement to voters to participate in the political process. League members can start by inviting younger voters and neighbors to go to the local caucus with them. This is a chance to be heard.



For Democratic Party caucus information, follow the link at [www.wa-democrats.org](http://www.wa-democrats.org) or call the caucus hotline at (206) 583-4345.

For Republican Party caucus information, follow the link at [www.kcgop.org](http://www.kcgop.org) or call (425) 990-0404 for more information.



## How to pick a candidate

### A STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

#### Step 1: Decide what you are looking for in a candidate.

You want to pick a candidate that you agree with on the issues and that you feel would be a good person for the job. Both are important. Your first step in picking a candidate is to decide what you care about and what character you want in a leader.

Create a Candidate Report Card listing your priority issues and the qualities you think are most important in an elected official. Rate the candidates on how closely their views match yours and on their leadership abilities.

CANDIDATE REPORT CARD			
CANDIDATE			
ISSUES	X	Y	Z
Terrorism			
Social Security & Medicare			
Health Care			
Education			
Campaign Finance			
Taxes			
LEADERSHIP QUALITIES			
Leadership Abilities			
Experience			
Honesty & Integrity			

#### Step 2: Take a good look at campaign information

You get a lot of impressions and still feel that you get very little real information about the candidates and their views on the issues. You hear slogans, you recognize the names of famous candidates, and you can see the personalities of those candidates. But does that help you decide who you like for the job?

Candidates use many tools in campaigning for office, such as political ads, direct mail, web sites, and polls. Voters need tools to judge candidates on their positions and qualifications.

Here are some tools and suggestions:

**TV and Radio Ads:** Ask yourself some questions. What did you learn about the candidate? Did you find out any details on what the candidate wants to do? Did the candidate tell you anything about qualifications? Or, was the ad designed only to appeal to your emotions? Separate the glitter from the substance.

**Direct Mail:** More and more candidates use direct mail to ask for money or votes. Computers make it easy to send a letter that looks like it's just for you. Remember that the letter is another way to try to get your vote. See what can be learned from it.

**Pamphlets and Flyers:** The leaflet left under your door may contain good, interesting information or it may be full of half-truths. Read it critically. Does it accuse the opponent of something? Did you get it so close to Election Day that the opponent can't answer back?

**Emotional Appeals:** Listen to a candidate's statements and arguments. Then decide if they are targeted for your emotions alone. Sometimes the words and pictures used are meant to get you to feel a certain way.

#### Step 3: Learn how others view the candidate.

Poll results are a favorite news story these days. People are asked whom they support and sometimes why they support a particular candidate. Polls will tell you who is leading at a certain point in the campaign. Candidates like to know who's leading because it can increase support and contributions from people who want to be on the winning team. Before you believe everything in a poll, ask these questions:

**Who paid for the poll?** Did they give you all the answers? When parties and candidates pay for polls, they can control what results they give. They may not publish any information that may be bad for them.

**Was the poll affected by an important event?** When people see a lot of news stories on an event such as a military crisis or a political scandal, their opinions may change.

**What questions were asked?** Were they fair? You can easily spot really biased questions that produce a resounding "Yes" or "No." Also look for the leading questions that push you to a certain answer or leave no room for a "Yes, if..." or "No, but..."

**Who was interviewed?** How were people picked? Were people chosen at random? Did the poll include all parts of the country? If not, the results may tell you how a small group feels but nothing about the total population.

**How many people were interviewed?** No matter how well a poll is done, there is always a margin of error. And the smaller the number of people, the more likely it is that there are mistakes.

**How many “Undecideds”?** Remember, once the “undecideds” make up their minds, the results could change dramatically.

**How long ago?** Even the best polls are just a snapshot in time. People may change their minds in a day, a week, or a month, especially as new things happen or they learn more. Look for polls and compare the new poll with past ones. Try to spot trends.

**Be smart about how you use group ratings:** Endorsements provide clues to the importance a candidate places on an issue. Some organizations representing special interest groups (business, the environment, labor, older Americans, etc.) go through people’s votes on bills and rate them on how closely they match one group’s point of view. These ratings can be helpful, but they can be misleading. Never take them as the final word.

**Check the organization’s reputation.** Can it be trusted?

**What is the group’s bias?** Which issues are important to its members? Are they the same ones you care about? What one group might label as a vote for wasteful spending, another might see as a vote in support for an important project.

**What votes were included in the ratings?** Sometimes, for instance, the vote that really tells you how the person thinks is on an amendment, not on the main bill. Do the group’s choices and explanations help you sort it all out?

#### **Step 4: Rate the candidates on how they campaign**

You can tell a lot about a candidate by the way the campaign is run. We deserve open, honest and campaigns that tell us about what the candidate wants to do. We shouldn’t put up with unfair campaigns.

Does the candidate answer questions? Is the candidate willing to debate with opponents? Does the candidate appear in person or send a “stand-in?”

#### **HERE ARE SOME IDEAS THAT HELP YOU IDENTIFY AN UNFAIR CAMPAIGN:**

**Name-calling:** A candidate might call an opponent “wishy-washy” or “two-faced” when he or she really is just showing that it’s OK to listen to both sides and to change one’s mind. Don’t listen to attacks on a candidate’s family, ethnicity, gender, race or personal characteristics that don’t have anything to do with how the candidate will do the job.

**Spreading rumors:** Watch for tricky statements such as, “Although everyone says my opponent is a crook, I have no personal knowledge of any wrongdoing.” These unfair hints can sway an election long before a fair campaign investigation can stop them.

**Loaded Statements:** “I oppose wasteful spending” doesn’t say much - and it makes it seem like the candidate’s opponent is for it. A candidate should say which spending should be cut and which spending is necessary.

**Catchwords:** Beware of empty phrases such as “law and order” or “The American Way” that are designed to trigger a knee-jerk, emotional reaction without saying much.

#### **SPOT PHONY ISSUES**

**Passing the blame:** When one candidate accuses another candidate or party of being the cause of a major problem, such as unemployment or inflation, check it out. Was it really possible for the candidate to solve the problem? Has there been time to tackle the problem?

**Promising the sky:** Be realistic. Voters shouldn’t expect miracles and candidates shouldn’t promise them.

**Evading real issues:** Many candidates work very hard to avoid giving direct answers to direct questions. It’s not enough, for instance, for a candidate to say, “I’ve always been concerned about the high cost of health care,” and leave it at that. Watch out for candidates who talk about benefits and never mention costs or how the nuts and bolts of a program will work.

### Step 5: Examine the candidate's campaign finances.

- Where do the candidates get the money to pay for their campaigns?
- Use their own money?
- Get money from a few rich people?
- Get money from many people giving small amounts?
- Get money from Political Action Committees (known as PACs - groups formed to raise and distribute money to candidates and issues)?

Many types of information about money given to campaigns must be reported to the government and are watched by the press. Will people who are elected vote to support the people who gave them money? You may hear something like, "We all know Smith is backed by big money interests," or "The union has Jones in its pocket." Every candidate needs support from a wide range of people and groups who may not represent the candidate's views on all the issues. Judge the candidate's own words and deeds. You can get information about campaign contributions:

#### Federal Election Commission

1-800-424-9530

<http://www.fec.gov>

#### State Public Disclosure Commission

1-360-753-1111, Toll Free: 1-877-601-2828

<http://www.pdc.wa.gov/>

### Step 6: Where can you find the information you need?

You want to make the right decision, but sometimes it's hard to quickly and easily find the information you want.

- Read your local newspaper.
- Listen to the news on television or radio.
- Talk to your friends about the election.
- Call the political parties.
- Check the League of Women Voters Web site, Washington Voter, which provides information on voting, elections, and candidates in all counties.  
<http://www.washingtonvoter.org>  
The League of Women Voters will link to all county Web sites and candidate Web sites nationally.  
<http://www.vote411.org>

### Step 7: Pick a candidate

Now that you have the tools to make an informed choice, **DO SOMETHING!**

- Back the candidates you believe in.
- Talk to your friends and co-workers about "your" candidate.
- Don't be afraid to ask tough questions at candidate meetings, at rallies and when a campaign worker rings your doorbell.
- Call TV and radio stations and newspapers to praise or criticize campaign spots.
- Be a letter writer. Tell candidates, newspapers and party leaders how you feel about the issues.
- Don't tolerate unfair campaign practices.
- Call the League of Women Voters in your area to find out how to get involved and make a difference.

### VOTE for the candidate of your choice.

*This brochure was adapted in 2007 from LWVUS Pick a Candidate, LWVNY How To Pick a Candidate, and LWVWA How to Pick a Candidate*



*Doing hands-on work to safeguard democracy*

League of Women Voters of Seattle  
1620 18th Avenue, Suite 101  
Seattle WA 98122  
206-329-4848

[info@seattlelwv.org](mailto:info@seattlelwv.org)  
[www.seattlelwv.org](http://www.seattlelwv.org)

# Vote!

Washington State  
Presidential Primary

**February 19, 2008**

Polls Open 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

## MEMBERSHIP – FEBRUARY 2008

by Kitty Mahon, Membership Chair

### **\$2.50 Club**

Again, thanks are in order to the many members who contribute beyond their dues to support the increased per member payment to the National League to cover the cost of the immigration study. Kicking off 2008 are: Michael Adler, Ellen Bierman, Marilyn Bierman, Naomie Bulloch, Thelma Caplan, Kayla Cooper, Mary Paine, Mary Slotnick, Joan Waldo, Christine White, Mary Burki, Barbara Lovseth, Janet Perry, Nancy Dealey, Carol Hannum, Audrey Hansmire, and Mary M. Neilson.



*Kitty Mahon*

### **League Members are Generous**

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions from donors to the League who support its work and underwrite memberships for others. With many thanks to Edward Boone, Jr., Jackie Kiser, Monica Leigh, Helen Sommers, Susan Baird-Joshi and Jay and Betty Sullivan.

### **Happy 88th Birthday To The League Of Women Voters**

February 14th – on this date in history.....  
 1859 – Oregon became the 33rd state in the United States  
 1899 – US Congress began using voting machines  
 1912 – Arizona became the 48th state in the United States and.....  
 on February 14, 1920, six months before the 19th amendment to the Constitution was ratified, the League was formally organized in Chicago as the National League of Women Voters.

We wish the League a happy birthday and many, many more.

### **Please Save The Date To Get To Know League**

A casual dinner will be held on Thursday, March 6 at 5:30 p.m. prior to the Women's History Month Forum. The Get to Know League dinner is open to all new or prospective members. The forum topic will focus on women and economics. This forum and dinner will be held at St. Andrews Church in Bellevue. Invitations to the dinner will be mailed the first week of February to those who have joined recently or expressed interest in the League. If you do not receive an invitation and are interested in attending (or know someone who might like to) please contact the CIS desk at (206) 329-4848 or email [membership@seattlelwv.org](mailto:membership@seattlelwv.org)



### **Dependent Care and Child Care**

Reminder: The League reimburses members for dependent care and child care. We want everybody who is the primary giver for their loved ones to be able to join us. Call Denise at (206) 329-4848 to find out how we can make it easier for you to attend a meeting.

## Welcome New Members

by Marguerite Kuhns

### Beverly Corwin

is returning to the League. She was quite active in the 60s and 70s and chaired the Status of Women Committee. She also lobbied for passage of women's rights legislation. Beverly has a BA and also pursued graduate work. She was active in jobs which provided information about air and water pollution. She worked for City Light for twenty years as Manager of Residential Energy Conservation. Photography is one of her special skills. Beverly rejoined the League because she is interested in receiving the League's educational materials and wants to attend the forums. She will join a unit if her schedule permits. We're glad you are back, Beverly.

### April Kauffman

is a recent graduate of the University of Washington with a BA in Business Administration. She has worked as a real estate agent since her graduation in June. April has a creative side and enjoys the arts and music Seattle has to offer. She is very interested in the green/organic movement. She heard about the League from a professor at the UW. She wants to become more connected and active in events and community affairs, and has been looking for organizations to join. Her particular interests include civil liberties and human rights, health care, women's issues, gay rights, and immigration. She would like to be involved in voter registration, community outreach and special events. Welcome, April.

## In Memory

### Inga Douglas

The League has lost a bright spirit. Inga Douglas died on Nov. 30 after a long battle with cancer. Rail thin, red hair, stylish, classic orange convertible bug and an approach which sometimes made one wonder if she was grounded in reality (She was.) That was Inga!

Inga led a busy life. She was active in League. She shepherded her youngest son, Casey, a special kid, through his youth. She worked part time in supermarket marketing. She pursued her goal of being an actor until she was physically unable to do so. Those of us who were close to her were aware of the many pressures under which she worked and we worried about her.

I cannot remember when I first met Inga but I remember the year I became LWVS president. It must have been August. Inga had put together a schedule of candidate forums for the fall and we were trying to get out a flyer to publicize them. Our new staff person was running that ancient press for the first time. A group of women, leaguers and some community members were waiting to mail the flyer. It was a moment of shared triumph when that flyer came rolling off the press. The larger triumph was Inga's in getting all those events organized. We appreciated her effort and skill in this and many other league activities.

Inga was active in voter service, the international relations committee, the land use committee, and the auction. Her role in each varied but she always brought her dramatic /literary talents with her. We remember her performances as part of the Women's History Month program, the Spring Fling, and the Auction. She came to the last auction in a wheelchair. Her answering machine message always reminded us of some current league activity and ended with "TaTa."

Jan O'Connor, Peggy Saari, Carol Goldenberg,  
Juliet Beard

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The Seattle League extends condolences to member **Ruth Kagi**, whose husband **Mark** died in December after a long illness.

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THROUGH THE DECADES!

## Part IV – The League in the 1970s and 80s

We continue with the history of the League, as written by Kay J. Maxwell, former LWVUS president.

### The 1970s

#### ORGANIZATION

In 1970 the national bylaws requirement for adopting a not-recommended item was changed from three-fifths to a simple majority. “CAs” and “CRs” were dropped from the bylaws, and the national program appeared as one list of issues discussed, amended and adopted at national conventions every two years.

In 1972, Inter-League Organizations (ILOs), created in many parts of the country to deal with regional issues, were added to the formal structure of the League. The 1974 convention also amended the bylaws to allow men to join the League as full voting members.

#### ISSUES

In the early 1970s, the League addressed the issue of income assistance and also began its efforts to achieve a national Equal Rights Amendment, an effort which ultimately failed. The League also adopted a position on direct popular election of the President, on Congress, on the UN and on Campaign Finance. And, in 1976, the League sponsored the first televised presidential debates since 1960, resulting in receiving an Emmy award.

The League’s deep interest in the environment was dramatically evident in the 1970s and it has since built a sequence of broad national positions on water, as well as air, waste management, land use and energy.



### The 1980s:

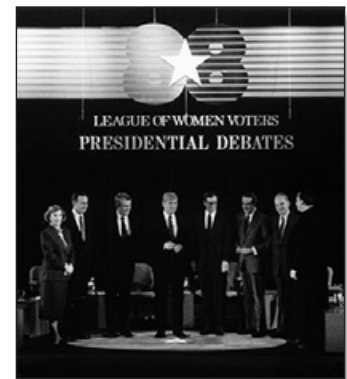
#### ORGANIZATION

To broaden membership and address the issue of membership decline, the 1982 convention amended the bylaws to permit member recruitment by the national and state levels, as well as the local level. Convention delegates also called for the development of a long-range plan for the organization. The plan, which defined the League’s mission and outlined goals and strategies for the future, was the subject of spirited debate at the convention. During the 1984-88 period the League’s long-range plan was refined and updated, then adopted by the 1988 convention with some modifications. These steps, together with the restructuring and streamlining of League Boards, leadership training and an emphasis on modern techniques of management and communication, were evidence of the League’s efforts to adapt to the realities of a changing world and to ensure its place as the leading civic organization in the United States.

#### ISSUES

The League was in the forefront of the struggle to pass the Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1982 and contributed significantly to enactment of the historic Tax Reform Act of 1986. It also adopted a position on fiscal policy and one on US Relations with Developing Countries.

In the arms control field, LWV pressure helped achieve Senate ratification of the groundbreaking Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF) in 1988. In that same year the League also completed a study of U.S. agricultural policy. And through the Agenda for Security Projects in 1984, 1986 and 1988, the League underwrote some 150 debates focused on national security issues among congressional candidates. The League also sponsored Presidential Debates in 1980 and 1984, but withdrew as a sponsor of General Election debates in 1988. In 1983 the League adopted a position on public policy on reproductive choice.



## Two Book Reviews by Vicky Downs

### Thirst: Fighting the Corporate Theft of Our Water

by Alan Snitow & Deborah Kaufman with Michael Fox

A friend in my Fitness Class told me she'd heard people at U.W. talk about a book titled *Thirst*. Though we were initially disappointed that its actual focus was quite narrow, that focus is an important one: is water a human right or a commodity to be marketed for profit?

The authors produced the documentary *Thirst* on Public Broadcasting System's *Point Of View* series in 2004, and this book followed in 2007. After pointing out that most water on Earth is not potable, the authors describe efforts made by entrepreneurs to buy up rights to fresh water for sale as a commodity in communities all over the US. Recently on National Public Radio I heard that bottled water has become a multi-billion dollar industry, while good tap water is essentially free. The radio guest urged listeners to avoid buying bottled water that "costs more than gas." Clearly "commodified" water has become a part of our lives.

Throughout history, water has defined the structure of civilization. In Japan, for instance, the culture was based on the need for sharing water in rice paddies. Here in the US, water rights mostly have to do with

"reasonable use." However, the authors point out "that law [in America] is virtually ignorant of hydrological reality." The movement of ground water has been little understood, and the law "did not consider the impact of ground water pumping on streams and watersheds."

After providing basic information on water use, the book focuses on eight communities throughout America which have faced efforts by "Big Water" companies to privatize. The places were chosen to provide an overview: in Stockton California, a strong mayor "played hardball in an effort to win approval of the largest privatization contract in the West", while in New England, town meetings were the venue for fighting corporate takeovers.

This is a provocative book, well researched and easy to read. The authors are not disinterested—they give no examples of helpful private ownership. However, their clarity and passion for a cause they believe in taught me a great deal about a complicated topic.



### Water: A Natural History by Alice Outwater

Just after reviewing *Thirst*, I received my college alumnae magazine, which included a book list for a basic course on the environment. One title, *Water: A Natural History*, by Alice Outwater, is clearly required reading for this issue of the *Voter*! It taught me a lot about fresh water in our part of the world.

Surprisingly, the first two chapters focus on beavers, but I quickly learned that they are unique. Since their pelts have natural waterproofing, they have historically been highly valued for clothing. British records show that almost 400,000 skins were imported from Russia alone in 1384. Beavers in Europe had become scarce by the 15th century. When American beaver pelts appeared in Europe in the 17th century, the demand "was virtually limitless." By the end of the 18th century, the beaver in America was nearly gone.

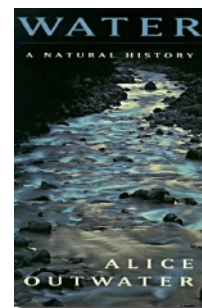
For America, that meant that the hundreds of thousands of acres of beaver-created wetlands, with their naturally cleaned water, were gone too. Without "nature's hydrologists" there was little to prevent soil from washing downstream, nor were there wetlands to

absorb water during storms and release it during dry times.

Similarly, a billion prairie dogs in the old West created tunnels which held onto rainwater that poured in great torrents, allowing much water to gradually sink into aquifers. Because prairie dogs were seen as pests, their colonies are few and far between today. Without their tunnels, or the bison wallows that served a similar purpose, there is no natural way to fill America's great underground lakes.

This book spells out what our country's water supply is up against. It is full of fascinating information about the role of woods, grass, engineering projects such as dams, and the astounding proliferation of chemicals in the 20th century. Thankfully, Dr. Outwater describes examples of projects that are helping to bring back some of the delicious, clean water that was here when white people first arrived.

A short book that is not political, this is a fine complement to *Thirst*.



JANUARY PROGRAM PLANNING FORUM –

## Roundtables at Work

By Nan Moore

A hearty group of about fifty determined Leaguers braved the wind and rain to attend the National and Local Planning Forum on January 3. The evening started with reports from standing committee and study committee chairs. Many of those present mentioned how interesting it was to find out what was really happening on all those committees. Clearly we are a busy group, with opportunities for learning and action in a wide range of civic areas. Committee members are deeply involved in the ongoing hot topics in land use or transportation or social justice—you name it. Even if you don't consider yourself an expert on a committee's area, the chairs made clear that newcomers are always welcome. The committee will get you up to speed! Watch the Voter for meeting times of a committee that intrigues you.

Ellen Berg announced the proposed formation of a new committee to study issues of aging, dealing with the impact of public policies on care for those who are aging and on their efforts to retain their autonomy. She urged members who were interested to contact her. (You may leave word for her at the League office, 206-329-4848, if you are interested.)

Following those reports, the members in attendance dug in for lively debates about issues that require attention from the Seattle or US League. Several issues bubbled to the top, including (but not limited to!) Aging, Banking Laws and Personal Debt, Privatization of Public Resources, Arms Control and Disarmament, and Campaign Finance. Results of the roundtable discussions were forwarded to the units, where those ideas—and others arising in the units—will be further considered and refined before they are sent on to the Board and thence on to the National program committee.

## On Consensus and Concurrence

### What is Consensus?

Discussion and "Consensus" are the methods by which League establishes its positions on issues. Rather than being a majority vs. minority opinion, consensus takes into account all opinions and inhabits the place where members *can agree*.

#### CONSENSUS IS:

- The overall decision making process by which substantial agreement among members is reached on an issue;
- A specific technique used traditionally in the League to discuss and arrive at conclusions on issues;
- A technique for reaching member agreement;
- A process whereby members participate in a group discussion of an issue;
- The overall "sense of the group" as expressed through the exchange of ideas and opinions.

#### CONSENSUS IS NOT:

- A simple majority
- Unanimity
- A counting of hands or votes
- A poll-taking process

IF everyone keeps in mind the intended focus of the study and the kinds of decisions that citizens can usefully be involved in;

IF the discussion is open, but structured;  
THEN significant member agreement (consensus) will emerge from the discussion.

### What is Concurrence?

Concurrence is the act of agreeing with a statement or existing position. A decision-making technique used by the League for some time, concurrence can work in several ways. Groups of League members or League boards can concur with:

- Recommendations of a resource committee or a unit group;
- Decision statements formulated by League boards;
- Positions reached by another League

# Regional Municipal Water Supply

by Denise Smith

## Seattle Public Utilities' Role

The City of Seattle has been the major water supplier in King County for over 100 years. In 1996, when the League last studied water use in the area, Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) supplied an average of approximately 155 million gallons per day (mgd), about 73% of the potable water consumed in King County, through its delivery within the City of Seattle and in contracts to surrounding water districts and cities. The annual average water consumption has dropped over the last ten years through conservation efforts as well as plumbing code changes, pricing and transitory savings. Current average water demand by SPU is under 130 mgd.

Early residents of Seattle realized the importance of a clean and dependable water supply. Influenced by a typhoid epidemic and the great fire of 1889, when private water companies proved to be inadequate, the residents voted in 1895 for the revenue bonds needed to establish and operate a protected water supply high in the Cascade Mountains. Under the leadership of Water Superintendent L.B. Youngs, the City invested \$17 million at the turn of the century to develop a gravity-fed transmission and distribution system from the Cedar River Watershed. The Cedar River now supplies about 70% of SPU's customer demand.

Seattle applied for water rights to the Tolt River Watershed in 1936 in anticipation of future growth. The South Fork of the Tolt was finally developed in 1964, delivering much needed water to North Seattle and responding to the growing demand from Eastside suburban water customers. In 2001 the addition of Tolt Filtration added 11 mgd of supply. The South Fork of the Tolt supplies about 30% of SPU's customer demand.

In 1987 Seattle developed two well fields near the Highline area. These are available to supplement Seattle's surface water supplies from the Cedar and South Fork Tolt during peak demand and in emergencies.

Seattle's surface water supplies must meet instream flow requirements on the Cedar and South Fork of the Tolt Rivers to protect fisheries resources and aquatic habitat. The Cedar River Instream Flow Agreement, a component of the Cedar River Watershed Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP), governs instream flow on the Cedar River. (The HCP adopted in 2000 is Seattle's comprehensive response for the Cedar River Watershed to the Endangered Species Act listing of salmon in the late 1990's.) The South Fork of the

Tolt instream flows are specified in the 1988 South Fork Tolt River Hydroelectric Project Settlement Agreement. According to the 2007 Water System Plan, Seattle has met its instream flow obligations, with a few exceptions due mainly to operational issues.

Seattle has provided water to suburban communities since early this century. Many of the 45 small communities that originally purchased water from Seattle fifty years ago have been annexed by the city. Many new suburban communities became customers of the Seattle system as the area developed. In 1999, several of Seattle's wholesale customers joined through an interlocal contract to form the Cascade Water Alliance, which would be responsible for planning, financing, developing and maintaining additional water supplies as well as for the distribution infrastructure to serve its members. Water is also available through independent contracts to current customers who do not join the new entity.

Today Seattle water is delivered to Seattle retail customers and the wholesale customers in suburban cities and water districts through a transmission and distribution system of approximately 1800 miles. As the major water provider in King County and the largest water provider in the state, Seattle maintains a leadership role in the region. Seattle continues to collaborate directly with several other jurisdictions and water purveyors to identify and help finance investigations of possible new water resources.

In addition, an organization of water purveyors in the King, Pierce and Snohomish tri-county region, the Central Puget Sound Water Suppliers' Forum, was formed in July of 1998 to address regional water supply issues. The web site for this organization, [cpswatersuppliersforum.org](http://cpswatersuppliersforum.org), describes the Forum as "a cooperative effort of water suppliers and local entities in the Central Puget Sound region of Washington State."

The regional issues addressed by the Forum include strategies in response to the endangered species listing of Puget Sound Chinook salmon and other legislative directives such as the Municipal Water Law of 2003 (discussed in the February 2007 Voter). The Forum also developed a survey of water supply and water demand in the region, the 2001 Central Puget Sound Regional Water Supply Outlook. The Outlook is being updated and will address additional issues of population increase and the impact of climate change on water supply. This update will be published in late 2008.

### Water Resources in Washington State

Water is considered a public resource held in trust for the people of Washington State. Water belongs to all the citizens of Washington and cannot be bought or sold. Therefore, water purveyors such as Seattle Public Utilities or their wholesale customers are paid for the administration, transmission system, delivery system and other infrastructure necessary to supply clean and sufficient water to those who need it.

In Washington, the allocation of water is governed using a system of permits known as water rights. The permits specify the amount, the origin, the destination and use of the water requested. Rights are awarded “first in time; first in right” based on the Western Water Law doctrine of prior appropriation. Under this doctrine, codified in chapter 90.03 RCW, the first person or organization to put water to beneficial use has the right to as much water as necessary for this use; this right must be fully satisfied before any other water use. In times of shortage, earlier or senior water right holders have priority over later or junior appropriators. Native American Tribes have asserted senior water rights for both on-reservation and off-reservation uses in most King County watersheds.

The Department of Ecology allocates the water in the State of Washington using four statutory criteria:

- water is available for appropriation;
- there will be no impairment to existing, or senior rights;
- water will be put to beneficial use; and
- issuance of the right will not be detrimental to the public’s welfare.

If the four questions can be addressed affirmatively, a water right is granted after due consideration is given to existing basin management plans; instream flow levels; hydraulic continuity (the interconnection of surface and groundwater); and salt water intrusion.

Washington State water law is based on statutes, precedents of past court cases, and administrative policies and regulations. It is an evolving structure. Washington State Supreme Court decisions can have a significant effect on water allocation and planning throughout the state. Several recent court decisions put into question water availability warranting legislative fixes.

### Conservation

The Municipal Water Law of 2003 was the outcome of several years of advisory group meetings, stakeholder hearings, interest group lobbying as well as a strong commitment by the governor to reach a compromise. The primary issues of conflict that were the focus of the compromise were validating the inchoate water

rights (the unused portion of a municipal water right), allowing cross-basin transfers and the transfer of rights.

Many groups—including the League, environmental groups and several tribes—believed these water rights fixes should be accompanied by strict enforceable measures to assure protection of the natural environment and fisheries. The water conservation requirement was the section of the new law which most closely addressed the issues of those most concerned about the environmental impacts of this law and the changes in water resource management. The Water Use Efficiency requirements for water utilities were established by Department of Health under direction of this law. (See *Voter* article 2007.)

Seattle had begun serious water conservation prior to the Water Use Efficiency rule. In 1997 the city conducted a demand forecast that predicted that without conservation Seattle would need a new source of supply by 2013. The city embarked on an aggressive conservation program with the goal of keeping the water demand flat through 2010 despite predicted population growth. The 1% Conservation Program was extended beyond just city residents in 2000 to include the entire region through the Saving Water Partnership. The Initiative 63 **Settlement Ordinance** adopted in 2001 also committed the city to pursue conservation beyond the regional 1% Conservation Program. These programs, as well as plumbing code changes, pricing and **system efficiencies**, have yielded an estimated cumulative average annual savings of 22 mgd between 1999 and 2005. Since the remarkable success of Seattle’s water conservation efforts, updated demand forecasts now predict that with expected population growth there will be no need for new supply until after 2060.

Concerns have been raised regionally about the effects of global climate change on water resources. Seattle and their regional partners of King County, the University of Washington and other water purveyors have taken these concerns seriously and are developing scenarios of the possible impacts to the water supply. According to the 2007 Water Supply plan, Seattle believes “adaptation can provide Seattle Public Utilities with system resiliency and flexibility that can better prepare SPU to meet the water demands of people and fish as the impacts of climate change and variability are felt in the regions.” As a leader in regional water planning and delivery, the decisions and guidance on response to global climate change developed by Seattle will influence the response throughout the region.

# The Cascade Water Alliance

by Denise Smith

Over the last 10 years the Cascade Water Alliance (Cascade) has evolved from a loosely aligned group of independent Seattle wholesale water customers into one of the region's major water suppliers. Established in 1999 under an Interlocal Contract between 8 municipalities and water districts in King County, Cascade serves over 370,000 residences and 22,000 businesses in the cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, Issaquah, and Tukwila, and in the Covington Water District and Sammamish Plateau and Skyway Water & Sewer Districts. These utilities provide nearly 50% of retail water sales in King County outside the City of Seattle.

When Cascade was formed in 1999, the region faced increasing water demand due to the burgeoning population growth in a successful economic environment. Several suburban cities and communities in rural King County with independent groundwater sources had reached the limits of their water supply. Conservation efforts were enacted and some building moratoriums were placed but it was clear to many that a regional approach was needed.

According to the WEB site for Cascade Water Alliance, [www.cascadewater.org](http://www.cascadewater.org), the interlocal contract between the eight municipalities and water districts gives Cascade the responsibility to:

- Purchase wholesale water from other regional suppliers
- Coordinate conservation and supply management
- Acquire and construct water supply infrastructure
- Foster regional planning to provide adequate water for both people and fish

Under this contract, Cascade provides a full supply commitment to each of its members. Cascade is responsible to meet all current and future water supply needs of its members "after accounting for any supply provided from a member's independent sources."

Cascade proposes to meet the water needs of its members through several supply options described in its 2004 Transmission and Supply Plan that outlines water supply planning through 2050.

Cascade has acquired a transmission pipeline running from Bellevue to Issaquah, and is in the process of planning, permitting and constructing a network of transmission pipelines connecting other supply sources to members, such as the completed intertie connecting Sammamish Plateau Water and

Sewer District and Redmond, which allowed the District to rebuild their wells and will be available for emergencies or long term supply in the future.

Cascade will continue purchasing water from Seattle as part of its supply. According to Seattle's 2007 Water Supply Plan "in 2003, SPU signed long-term contracts for specified amounts of water - a block contract- with the Cascade Water Alliance. SPU's

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*One key to Cascade's continued viability is securing a new water supply.*

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*contract with Cascade is a declining block contract that limits annual Cascade purchases from SPU to an average 30.3 million gallons per day (mgd) through 2023, after which the block volume begins to decline. The block will be reduced by 5 mgd in 2024 and by another 5 mgd in 2030. Additional 5-mgd reductions will occur every 5 years thereafter through 2045, leaving a final block of 5.3 mgd."*

Cascade has also contracted with Tacoma Public Utilities in 2005 for wholesale purchase from Tacoma's excess supply of water from the Green River beginning in 2009, a portion as a permanent supply and additional water for a 20 year period. Cascade will begin constructing transmission lines for this source in 2008.

One key to Cascade's continued viability is securing a new water supply. To meet the requirements of growth in the suburban cities and the increasing water demand, Cascade is pursuing the Puget Sound Energy, Lake Tapps water supply. The Cascade Transmission and Supply Plan calls for Lake Tapps to be the "single largest component of Cascade's long term water supply system."

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) WEB site, [ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/swro/lktappshome.html](http://ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/swro/lktappshome.html), describes a "draft report of exam for a Lake Tapps Public Water Supply Project proposal to help supply the long-range municipal water needs of the Central Puget Sound region, protect salmon and improve water quality, and assist ongoing efforts to preserve Lake Tapps."

It further explains that "if the water supply project is ultimately finalized and issued, Ecology will issue two interrelated water rights and one water right change to Cascade Water Alliance. One of the water rights would be to store water in the Lake Tapps Reservoir and the other would be to divert water from the White River into Lake Tapps to supply water for the Water Supply Project. The water rights change would

be issued with these water rights so that the Puget Sound Energy (PSE) hydropower claim could be used for all authorized purposes other than hydropower generation. The 50 year project would give PSE new authority to take an average of 64.6 million gallons of lake water a day for public use by 2053.”

Cascade has accomplished much in 10 years, including pursuing cost effective conservation efforts to reduce demand. However, there is still uncertainty. The Lake Tapps water right has yet to be approved and may meet additional obstacles with quality and instream flow requirements. The water treatment and transmission system must be sited, permitted and financed within the financial capacity of the Alliance. Cascade must find a way to establish a structure that will distribute water to former customers of Seattle and independent water suppliers at an acceptable price equitable to new as well as old customers.



## A Regional Approach to Municipal Water Management *Continued from cover*

These responses have changed the approach to water resource management in the region. They have also fostered a more collaborative approach to regional water management.

The prime collaborative approach in this region, the Central Puget Sound Water Supplier's Forum, was formed in July 1998 as a "cooperative effort of water suppliers and local entities in the Central Puget Sound region of Washington State." The forum addresses issues relating to maintaining a sustainable water supply within the requirements of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and Growth Management Act (GMA). The League has had representation on advisory committees of the forum since 2000. Further information can be found on their web site: [www.cpswatersuppliersforum.org/Home/](http://www.cpswatersuppliersforum.org/Home/).

Since the completion of the League's 1998 study there have also been unanticipated changes, including the burgeoning population growth in the area, which is predicted to add another 1.6 mil residents by 2040; the Municipal Water Law legislation and its requirement for conservation; and the threat which global warming poses to both water supply and water use. This month we will take a close look at local water resource management, planning, and cooperation between water jurisdictions. Our February forum will feature presentations from the City of Seattle, King County and the Cascade Water Alliance.

The League has a continued interest in water issues. We encourage you to attend the upcoming forum to learn more, and to contact Denise at the League office to find out how to become more involved.

FEBRUARY UNIT AGENDA

# Regional Water Resources

**Unit Name:****Date:****Number in Attendance:**

## Discussion Questions

What is the source of your water supply?

How does the management of Seattle Public Utilities affect you?

How does the success of the Cascade Water Alliance affect you?

What conservation steps is your water supplier requiring?

What recommended conservation steps are you taking?

How do you think global climate change might affect your water supply?



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF SEATTLE

The following letters have been received in response to the article "Protecting our Children by Monitoring and Preventing Lead Exposure", which appeared on page 14 of the January 2008 *Voter*.

TO: JOHN ROBERTS, jrahimsa@seattle-ts.org

**FROM: DR. WILLIAM O. ROBERTSON, MD**

DATE: JANUARY 9, 2008

Your November 28th, 2007, article on "Protecting Children by Monitoring and Preventing Lead Exposure" was very well put together – but it still went a bit too far in some of its "exaggerations" and "scare tactics". The article's first paragraph states there is "no safe level of lead exposure for children...." Nonsense – any risk is far, far below what seemed to be reasonable back in 1960 when analytical chemistry was more or less able to let us know. Levels in today's environment are "safe" since they, too, are far lower than they used to be and many of today's forms of lead molecules are meagerly absorbed by children and don't make more brain damage in older kids.

Over the eons, the metal lead has had multiple uses in society and in industry. Its availability to kids since tetra-ethyl lead was taken out of gasoline in the 1970s-1990s has plummeted. The lead component of the air we breathe fell to 7% of what it had been. (Incidentally, lead was added to gasoline in the 1920s to reduce the knocking of engines on the basis of almost no science whatsoever. Industry had actually planned to use ethanol (ethyl alcohol) instead but ethanol got a bad reputation as the target of "Prohibition" enacted in the 20's. Prohibition was soon repealed and 50 years later ethanol was added to gasoline to provide gasoline with still more energy – and perhaps at less cost – so to constitute 10% of the volume of "modern gasoline").

Lead's use in paint is still declining but some remains out there. New technology makes it amazingly easy to find lead – hence the rumors in this paper of worries about the suspected lead components of children's toys. Actually, high amounts have virtually disappeared but some lead is still contained in kid's trinkets and jewelry – especially in cheaper products produced aboard.

Yes, combined public health efforts, governmental action and industry activities have decimated lead poisoning among U.S. children. Only one death – 1!! – occurred over the past decade in the entire United States and only one child was admitted for lead poisoning to Seattle's Children's hospital in the past fifteen years. While far too many continue to worry about it as being possibly responsible for some unexplained causes of mental retardation – ? DEMOCRATS or REPUBLICANS depending upon your political beliefs! – it seems very, very, very unlikely to be the cause. Devoting lots of money and efforts towards reducing lead exposure further is a total waste and detracts from such resources used against other risks – such as eliminating all those aliens we have on earth who got here from outer space. Even though I would argue money could be far more effective than it is when directed at lead exposure.

Sincerely Yours,

William O. Robertson, MD



155 NE 100th Street, #100  
Seattle, WA 98125-8007  
Phone: 206.517.2350  
Fax: 206.526.8490  
[www.wapc.org](http://www.wapc.org)  
Emergency: 1.800.222.1222

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2008

TO: BEATRICE CRANE, VOTER EDITOR

**FROM: STEVEN G. GILBERT, PHD, DABT**

RE: RESPONSE TO WILLIAM O. ROBERTSON, MD

First, I want to recognize and compliment Dr. Robertson on his very long and distinguished career at the Washington Poison Center, from which he is now retired. The fundamental issue is that some physicians have not moved beyond acute poisonings and death as an indicator of child health. There is overwhelming research documenting that low level exposure to agents such as lead, mercury, PCBs and others, particularly at critical periods in child development, cause subtle changes in the nervous system that diminished a child's intellectual performance. We have an ethical responsibility to ensure that our children develop in an environment in which they can reach and maintain their full potential. Lead robs children of their potential even at very low levels of exposure. No child in Washington should ever have a blood lead level above 2 µg/dL, yet unfortunately thousands do.

While children appear clinically healthy, it is estimated that learning disabilities afflict 5-10% of children in public school and 3-6% of all school children suffer from attention deficits disorders. This occurs at incalculable individual and societal costs. Prevention of learning and developmental disorders by eliminating lead exposures will improve the lives of Washington's children and give an enormous return on investment.

A brief examination of current lead literature instructs us that to protect children's health we must eliminate lead exposures. While recognizing that lead is a naturally occurring element widely distributed due to human activity, there are many ways to dramatically reduce children's exposure. There is no justifiable reason for manufacturers to produce and market toys and other products to children containing lead. It is incumbent upon us, our duty, to take action to protect children from harmful toxic exposures.

Steven G. Gilbert, PhD, DABT  
Director INND (Institute of Neurotoxicology & Neurological Disorders)

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("A Small Dose of Toxicology")  
Web: [www.toxipedia.org](http://www.toxipedia.org) –  
connecting science and people

# Unit Meetings

<b>Unit leader</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Host</b>
<b>Monday, February 4, 2008</b>			
<b>Southend</b>			
Sam Scharff	webcats@speakeasy.net	7:30 p.m.	Lila Bulen 3716 Cascade Ave S
<b>Monday, February 11, 2008</b>			
<b>First Hill</b>			
Janet Perry	jhperry@foxiinternet.com	10:00 a.m.	Mary Margaret Pruitt Horizon House, 900 University St Sky Lounge
<b>Issaquah Evening</b>			
Denise Smith	president@seattlelvw.org	6:30 p.m.	Starbuck's at Meadow Center 1460 Gilman Blvd #K
<b>Kirkland/Redmond</b>			
Patti Catalano	pattimusic@comcast.net	7:00 p.m.	Liv Grohn 338 10th Avenue, Kirkland
<b>Capitol Hill/Montlake</b>			
Jan O'Connor	oconnor.js@gmail.com	7:15 p.m.	Linnea Hirst 1602 E McGraw St.
Vicky Downs	DownsVdowns@aol.com		
<b>Tuesday, February 12, 2008</b>			
<b>Bellevue</b>			
Bonnie Rimawi	BNRimawi@aol.com	10:00 a.m.	Bellevue Library Room 6
JoAnne Way	waytandj@comcast.net		
<b>North End Aft.</b>			
CoraLea Doty	clnjdoty@earthlink.net	12:30 p.m.	Barbara Denis 1325 N Allen #340
<b>West Seattle Day</b>			
Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis	terrylucy2u@comcast.net	12:30 p.m.	Anne Bowden The Kenney 7125 Fauntleroy SW
<b>West Seattle Eve</b>			
JoAnne McGaw	N/A	7:00 p.m.	Barbara Kaiser 8408 40th Ave SW
<b>Wednesday, February 13, 2008</b>			
<b>View Ridge</b>			
Marcia Brown	marciajobebrown@hotmail.com	12:45 p.m.	Gail Winberg 6004 NE 60th
Elaine Birn	mbirn@verizon.net		
<b>Magnolia/Queen Anne/Ballard Eve</b>			
Elsie Simon	elsiesimon@comcast.net	7:30 p.m.	Karen Adair 303 Blaine St (Queen Anne)
<b>Thursday, February 14, 2008</b>			
<b>Mercer Island</b>			
Martha Jordan	marty4lww@yahoo.com	9:15 a.m.	Lissa Wells 7651 SE 40th
<b>Issaquah</b>			
Margaret Austin	Margaret.Austin@comcast.net	10:00 a.m.	Issaquah City Hall & Police 130 E. Sunset Way Coho Room (upstairs)
Connie Reed	reedhtop@earthlink.net		
<b>Shoreline</b>			
Juliet Beard	juliet@windermere.com	4:30 p.m.	Richmond Beach Congregational Church NW 195th St and 15th Ave NW
<b>North Central</b>			
Jan Orlando	orlanre@aol.com	7:30 p.m.	Edith Miller 6902 32nd Ave NW Ballard
Gail Shurgot	gailshurgot@earthlink.net		
<b>Tuesday, February 19, 2008</b>			
<b>Pioneer Square</b>			
Pat Cleary	patiquah@msn.com	5:30 p.m.	Zeitgeist Coffee 174 So. Jackson St
<b>Saturday, February 23, 2007</b>			
<b>Ballard/Queen Anne/Magnolia Day</b>			
Judy Ostrow	2jostrow@comcast.net	9:15 a.m.	Alice Peterson 5245 Pullman Ave NE
Alice Peterson	peterson-alice-jack@msn.com		

# Board & Committee Contacts

<b>Term</b>	<b>Executive Committee</b>		
2007–2009	* President	Denise D. Smith	president@seattlelwv.org
2007–2009	1st V.P. Program Chair	Nan Moore	nannm@comcast.net
2007–2009	2nd V.P. Program	Harriett Morton	action@seattlelwv.org
2006–2008	3rd V.P. Tech Liaison	Stephanie Lin	stephanie.lin@gmail.com
2007–2009	4th V.P. Membership	Kitty Mahon	membership@seattlelwv.org
2007–2009	Secretary	Karen Adair	adairk@seanet.com
2007–2008	Treasurer	Laraine Volkman	treasurer@seattlelwv.org

<b>Term</b>	<b>Directors</b>		
2007–2008	Voter Service	Victoria Bennett	voterservice@seattlelwv.org
2007–2009	Director	Patti Catalano	pattimusic@comcast.net
2007–2009	Voter Editor	Beatrice Crane	votereditor@seattlelwv.org
2007–2008	Social Justice	Pat Cleary	patiquah@msn.com
2007–2009	Eastside Liaison	Doreen Cato	dcato@firstplaceschool.org
2006–2008	Unit Coordinator	Mickey Horwitz	stellarinteriors@hotmail.com
2006–2008	Political Party Chair	Paula Polet	paula98103@hotmail.com
2007–2009	Civics Education	Jaclyn Wall	speakingstrategies@hotmail.com
2007–2009	Seattle Liaison	Anita Warmflash	ansky@qwest.net

<b>Term</b>	<b>Education Fund Board</b>		
2007–2009	President	Nancy Eitrem	nancye@speakeasy.net
2007–2008	Vice President	Myra Lupton	mlupton@mailstation.com
2007–2009	Treasurer	Lisa Peterson	
2007–2008	Secretary	Boots Winterstein	paulandbootswinterstein@juno.com
2007–2008	Board member	Juliet Beard	juliet@windermere.com
2007–2008	Board member	Dorothy Y. Sale	saledy@comcast.net

## **Voter Service**

CIS Coordinator	Cynthia Howe	howe.john@comcast.net
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## **Study & Action Committees**

Civics Education	Jaclyn Wall	speakingstrategies@hotmail.com
Economics & Taxation	Nora Leech	nleech2002@yahoo.com
Education	Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis	lucygg@seattlelwv.org
Homelessness Study	Pat Cleary	patiquah@msn.com
Immigration Study Co-chair	Annette Holcomb	anholc@earthlink.net
Immigration Study Co-chair	Barbara Reid	barbereid@yahoo.com
International Relations	Ellen Berg	ellenzberg@aol.com
Land Use	Karen Kane	kanek@iopener.net
Natural Resources	John Roberts	jrahimsa@seattle-ts.org
Transportation	Linnea Hirst	LWVquilter@comcast.net

\* Indicates LWVS Board Representative on the Education Fund Board

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

## February Forum: Water Resources: The State of the Region Thursday, February 7, 2008

7:30 p.m. Briefing for discussion leaders at 6:30

**Location**

Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Ave, Seattle WA 98122  
(corner of Harvard & Seneca on First Hill)

**Program**

Presentations on Drinking Water Resources in King County

**Speakers**

Paul Fleming, Seattle Public Utilities Urban Sustainability Division  
Mike Gagliardo, General Manager Cascade Water Alliance  
Judi Gladstone, Seattle Public Utilities  
Steve Hirschey, King County Department of Natural Resources

All forums are free and open to the public.