

Seattle Voter

SUMMER 2011

VOL. 53, No.1

BALLOTS IN JULY

By Julie Anne Kempf, Voter Service

This has been a disconcerting year for gardening and election-watching, two activities near and dear to many of our League members' hearts. The second late, cold spring in as many years, coupled with no traditional hot summer days—it is 59 degrees at one o'clock in a mid-July afternoon as I write this—has made the year seem stuck in an endless chilly transition, while the appearance of ballots in voters' mailboxes at the end of July will make the summer seem, well, over. Time for election season. Three things start early autumn off: Back to School. Football. Big Elections.

You might be thinking, "Ballots in July? In voters' mailboxes? Is that a typo?"

No, that is not a typographical error! This year, Washington voters will experience the phenomenon of "Ballots in July." In the past few years, our state Legislature has, at the behest of the Office of the Secretary of State, moved the date of the Primary farther and farther up the calendar. This year it will be on August 16, the third Tuesday of August, requiring ballots to be mailed by each county's election office during the last week of July to be timely.

The date moves up yet again in 2012. Next

year, the Primary will be held on the **first** Tuesday of August. That means voters will be seeing ballots in their mailboxes not long after Independence Day weekend, or around July 10. Personally, I feel a bit of sadness that the Fourth of July, our annual holiday celebrating all that

**WELCOME
KING COUNTY SOUTH!!!!**



we are together—one nation, indivisible—will be followed so quickly by the resumption of the active campaign season, where we often speak of issues that so divide us as citizens.

Nevertheless, voting, whatever the date, remains an important activity, and we members

and officers of the League encourage all voters to take advantage of their voting franchise, every election. To this end, help is on the way in this summer issue of the *Voter!* We have ballot summaries of the issues on the ballot in King County on August 16. We have an invitation to our August forum, which will feature two of the ballot measures, and the two contested Seattle Council positions. We have contact information for King County Elections, and our own CIS (voter helpline) desk. We have the tools to help you be an informed voter, even if you are trying to relax during our tiny sliver of a summer!

Still, I have to say, it's going to be a bit odd to hold my first ballot of the season before holding my garden's first tomato.

Contents

President's Message	3
Final KCS President's Message.....	4
Calendar.....	5
Forum Schedule.....	6
Board Briefs.....	7
Annual Meeting Report.....	8
Committees	9
King County Connects	
Announcements	
Political Party and Auction.....	10
Forum Volunteers.....	11
Ballot Issue Summary Drafters.....	11
Citizens United Resolution.....	11
Congestion Reduction Charge.....	12
League News	
Spring Fling at Chinese Garden.....	13
State Convention Reports.....	13
Transportation Speakers.....	16
Voter Service	
Voter Registration.....	17
Membership	
Getting Connected.....	18
Carrie Chapman Catt Awards.....	18
Lifetime Members, Part 1.....	19
In Memoriam.....	22
Features	
Book Reviews.....	23
Unit Discussions of March, April, and May.....	25
August Program: Primary Election	
Forum Details.....	28
Ballot Issue Summaries.....	29
Unit Leaders.....	34
Board and Committee Contacts.....	35

Contact Information

President: Judy Bevington
Voter Editor: Nan Moore

League of Women Voters
of Seattle-King County
1620 18th Avenue, Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: (206) 329-4848
Fax: (206) 329-1273
info@seattlelwv.org
www.seattlelwv.org

Office Hours:
Weekdays, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

League of Women Voters of Washington
4730 University Way NE # 720
Seattle, WA 98105
(206) 622-8961
lwvwa@lwvwa.org
www.lwvwa.org

League of Women Voters of the United States
(202) 429-1965
lwv@lwv.org
www.lwv.org

Postal Regulations
The *Seattle Voter* is published monthly
except June and August.

Published periodicals postage paid at
Seattle, WA.

Postmaster:
Send address changes to *Seattle Voter*:
1620 18th Ave, Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98122
Seattle Voter (USPS 052210)

Connecting with Judy

I am excited. The level and quality of volunteerism in the League is heartening. When I saw the list of new board members the nominating committee had selected and I added them to those staying, I did a one-person high five. In addition, those leaving have offered to fill needed positions. Nan Moore will be the *Voter* editor and Beatrice Crane has offered to serve on sub-committees as needed. Board members have stepped up to accept demanding portfolio assignments. Units are choosing new chairs and conducting unit fundraisers. Our issue committees are getting ready for the new year with the help of the new program chair, Jeanette Johnson, and the action chair, Linda Brown.

In case you haven't heard the news, King County South voted to merge with us! They bring new, talented people to join us. This welcome merger assures that we can strengthen our voice on King County issues.

Mary Ehlers and Pat McCann have been appointed King County South representatives on the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County Board of Directors. Please be sure to read Mary Ehlers' letter to the KCS League reprinted on page 4. The Federal Way, Enumclaw, and Highline units will continue to meet and to monitor issues in their communities. South King County news and issues will appear in the "King County Connects" section of the *Voter*.

We have formed a transition committee to handle the tasks created by the merger including transferring members, reconciling positions, and figuring out the best way to organize the new Seattle-King County League. Though it may take a few months to completely update the stationery, we look forward to streamlined, quicker responses to county-wide issues.

I believe that volunteering and contributing, at whatever level one can, is not only valuable but rejuvenating and energizing. With this new role,



Judy Bevington

I, myself, am discovering an exciting, unexpected phase of life. I am also seeing new, younger faces around, folks who will bring fresh energy to our efforts and further develop their own skills. In particular, I am the direct beneficiary of the volunteer work of Marian Wolfe, Candis Litsey, and our new young Board member Kati Ortiz. They will fill treasury and banking functions so that I can move on to new tasks.

We have many wonderful volunteers but could use more. Some units or committees need new chairs and all need new members. These two League mainstays—the units and standing committees—have been the soul of the League and I thank those who have shepherded them so well. Each of us can help by reaching out to possible new members, perhaps newly retired folks or friends and neighbors. Making new members feel welcome by personally calling them to invite them to a few meetings is something we can all do. We can direct people to an issue committee if they are interested in a particular topic or to the office if they are interested in volunteering to help with the CIS desk or our fall political party.

I have not mentioned the other Board members and volunteers who should make this an exciting and productive year for us all, but you will be hearing about them. I hope one of them is you.

Sincerely,

Judy Bevington, President
League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County

This is a reprint of Mary Ehlers' last "President's Message" to the former King County South League of Women Voters. Her sign-off to that League serves as a lovely introduction to the larger league of which they are now a part. You'll hear more from Mary in the future in her new role as a member of the LWV Seattle-King County Board of Directors.

KCS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR JUNE

After 40 years the KCS LWV has decided to merge with the Seattle LWV. It was not a unanimous vote, but it was overwhelming. I know this seems like a sad event to some, but it allows us to add our voices to the third largest League in the United States. As a welcoming gesture, Seattle has already changed their name and the combined Leagues will be known as Seattle-King County LWV. They have invited us to have two seats on their Board and a section in the Seattle-KC *Voter*. You will be receiving an invitation from Seattle to join their League and an invitation to their upcoming fundraising Garden Event (details in this *Voter*).

I want to thank all of you who made this League the kind of organization that I wanted to be a part of. That is a reflection of the women who put in countless hours registering folks to vote, running candidate forums, researching issues, lobbying our congress to make south King County a better place to live. I especially want to thank Becky Cox for all she has done for our League over the years and also congratulate her on her 50 years with the League. Jane Shafer reminded us that back in 1971 when the South King County, Highline, and Federal Way Leagues voted to merge creating the KCS League, the intent was to form one King County League at some time in the future. That future is now.

This will be your last *Voter* from KCS. I encourage you to think of this as a commencement, where our voices are joined with so many others to make change happen.

Mary Ehlers



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.

The League of Women Voters of Seattle serves the greater Seattle area, including the cities of north King County as well as east King County from Bothell to Bellevue.

August/September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	August 1 Lake Forest Park Candidate Forum	2	3	4 Forum: Primary 7:00 p.m.	5	6 Board Retreat
7	8 Voter Deadline	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Primary Election	17 Transportation Committee 10:00 a.m. / Unit Leaders Meeting 5:30 p.m.	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	September 1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8 Forum: 2010 Census Update 7:30 p.m. / Units begin meeting	9	10 Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.

AUGUST

Lake Forest Park Mayoral
Candidate Forum
Monday, August 1
7:30 p.m.

Lake Forest Park Third Place
Books

Forum: Primary
Thursday, August 4
7:00 p.m.*

Seattle First Baptist Church
*Please note early starting time

Board Retreat
Saturday, August 6

Voter Deadline
Monday, August 8

Primary Election
Tuesday, August 16

Transportation Committee
Wednesday, August 17
10:00 a.m.
League Office

Unit Leaders Meeting
Wednesday, August 17
5:30 p.m.
1301 4th Ave.

Units begin meeting
Thursday, September 8

Board Meeting
Saturday, September 10
9:00 a.m.
League Office

Voter Deadline
Monday, September 12

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day
Monday, September 5

Forum: 2010 Census Update
Thursday, September 8
7:30 p.m.
Seattle First Baptist Church

Forum Schedule

<p>August 4 - Primary Election</p> <p>September 8 - 2010 Census Update: The Results</p> <p>October 6 - General Election</p> <p>November 1 - The Role of the Federal Government in Public Education</p> <p>January 5 - Program Planning</p> <p>February 2 - National Privatization Study</p> <p>March 1 - TBA</p> <p>April 5 - TBA</p> <p>May 3 - All Mail Voting</p>

The League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC) presents a public forum each month between August and May, generally on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Most forums are held at the Seattle First Baptist Church, but occasionally they are scheduled in other locations and times. Because of the broad community interest in public education, we are holding the November forum, "The Role of Federal Government in Public Education," at the Town Hall Downstairs. This forum will be held on November 1, the first Tuesday of the month, rather than on Thursday. The tentative schedule of upcoming forums for 2011-2012 appears above; check your *Voter* each month or the LWVS-KC website, seattlelwv.org, for up-to-date information.

Please note that the September event is a week later than usual due to the Labor Day weekend and, again, that the November forum will be held on November 1, the first Tuesday of the month.

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.

Board Briefs By Joanna Cullen, Secretary

The Board of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC) met on Saturday morning, June 4, 2011.

The Board approved the appointment of Mary Ehlers and Pat McCann as 2011-2012 LWVS Board members. These appointments follow the merger of the LWVS and the King County South League and are for one year.

President-elect Judy Bevington reported that Nan Moore will serve as editor of the *Voter*, Linette Bixby will serve as the LWVS-KC Local Unit Coordinator with Secretary Joanna Cullen serving as her liaison to the Board, and Nora Leech, chair of the LWVS-KC Economics and Taxation Committee, will be our watchdog on the LWVUS Privatization Study.

Convention: Board members shared their experiences at the LWVWA convention and were encouraged to write something for the Summer *Voter*. Of note was the success of the effort to gain concurrence on the LWVS Privatization Study at the state level. The Board will also have to monitor the LWVWA budget process since the LWVS-KC will be affected if dues are raised at the state level. LWVS-KC Board members Julie Anne Kempf, Cyndi Woods, and Ginna Owens, who presented workshops at the State Convention, were acknowledged for their leadership.

Program: The outline of the program calendar as currently projected through November 2011 was presented and discussed.

Cyndi Woods and Julie Anne Kempf will organize the Primary Election Forum.

Beatrice Crane will lead the reading compilation committee for the non-consensus questions from March 2011 through May 2011.

Voter Services: The current focus is identifying locations for voter registration at summer events.

Julie Anne Kempf advised the Board that the letter to be sent to ballot issue groups about our upcoming processes on ballot issues will explain

that LWVS-KC has two distinct procedures involving ballot issues. One produces balanced summaries of the ballot issues with no advocacy; this is part of our 501-C3 voter education. Through the other process LWVS-KC may take a position on a ballot issue and advocate for it, a part of its 501-C4 activities.

The endorsement procedure emailed to the Board earlier is intended to make the process user friendly and transparent, but it is not intended to guarantee that all will be happy with any particular endorsement.

Teams were formed to study and produce summaries of the primary election tunnel referendum, the primary election Health and Human Services Levy, and for the general election Family and Education Levy.

Development: Cyndi Woods reminded all to attend the Saturday, June 11th luncheon and to bring guests.

Kathy Sakahara updated the Board on the planning for the October 23rd Political Party and Fundraiser, and Ginna Owens explained that table captains are a key part of the planning for this event.

Ginna Owens also presented information on her new development initiative, the LWV Leadership Circle, which will also include a small event for those who pledge a significant donation per year for three years.

Membership: Kelly Powers reported a total of 689 members with a special note that four new members are from South County League.

2011 ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

BY JOANNA CULLEN, SECRETARY

The League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) held their annual meeting on Thursday, May 12, 2011. President Allison Feher called the meeting to order, welcomed those in attendance, and outlined the purposes of the annual meeting: to review and reaffirm our activities during the past year; establish the League program for the coming year; adopt a budget; elect officers, directors, and a nominating committee; consider new League positions; and give direction to the Board.

Board member Kelly Powers moved the proposed housekeeping by-laws amendment to bring the LWVS bylaws into conformity with National bylaws. It passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Nan Moore moved that all local positions as published in brief in the Summer 2010 *Voter* be readopted. The motion carried unanimously.

Dana Twight moved the adoption of one year study on the real costs, benefits, and effects of vote by mail vs traditional poll voting or a combined system. The study was adopted.

On behalf of the LWVS, Judy Bevington, Treasurer, presented the Carrie Chapman Catt awards to Nancy Rust and Toni Potter.

Nan Moore moved the proposed merger of LWVS and the South County league, thus creating one League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County, encompassing all of King County. The motion passed unanimously.

2010-2011 Nominating Committee members Nancy Eitreim, Vicky Downs, Liv Grohn Goodman, and Peggy Sarri, elected in 2010, and Beatrice Crane and Nan Moore, appointed from the Board, were recognized. Nominating Committee Chair Eitreim moved the election of the following slate of officers, directors, and 2011-2012 Nominating Committee:

President: Judy Bevington

1st Vice President: Cyndi Woods

2nd Vice President: Kelly Powers

4th Vice President: Jeanette Johnson

Directors: Ellen Barton, Linda Brown, Shari

Carter Lundberg, Ginna Owens, Dana Twight, and Janet Winans.

2011-2012 Nominating Committee:

Chair: Karen Adair

Astrid Berg

Jeannette Kahlenberg

Boots Winterstein

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the League, President Feher thanked the dedicated volunteers with whom she has worked during the last two years. She also recognized that volunteers beyond the elected and appointed Board members are key to doing the work of the League. The following members were recognized and those present were presented a certificate honoring fifty years of membership in the League: Margaret Ceis, Carol Goldenberg, Laura Weese, Virginia Gunby, Ann Ormsby, Jo Dawson, Nadine Baker, and Karla Wight.

Since Local Unit Coordinator Diana Henderson was unable to attend, Kelly Powers introduced the current and incoming Unit Leaders. All retiring, continuing, and new leaders, along with unit members were acknowledged for their contributions to this important grassroots responsibility.

Treasurer Judy Bevington moved the adoption of the League of Women Voters of Seattle proposed budget. The motion passed with one abstention.

Incoming President Judy Bevington then invited all current Board members to come forward to present President Allison Feher with a bouquet to honor Feher for her service to the League during the past two years.

Committees

Most committees of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County take a break during the summer. One exception is the Transportation Committee (see below). In addition, two new committees will be gearing up for work: the committee responsible for the new study adopted at Annual Meeting—Vote by Mail—and the Privatization committee. Announcements about these and some other committees are shown below. For a complete list of LWVS-KC committees, with contacts, please see the inside back cover. Committee meeting times for the new League year will appear in the September *Voter*.

CIVICS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

In the last couple of years, the Civics Education Committee has contributed time and talent to the League Board by sharing their expertise and by producing forums. The committee has also created a Civics Trivia game that debuted at the Pub at Third Place Books.

As current chair Dana Twight is now Membership Chair on the Board of Directors of LWVS-KC, “Civics Ed” could use a new chair.

If anyone would like to lead another round of Civics Trivia as a fun-or fund-raiser, this would be a great way to participate in League!

You can reach Dana Twight at membership@seattlelwv.org or at (206) 329-4848 or at <http://www.linkedin.com/in/danatwight2011>.

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Currently the Land Use committee is not meeting on a regular basis and is seeking a new chair. However, in the interim, outgoing Chair Karen Kane plans to provide updates on issues the committee has covered including: the Pike Place Market’s upcoming management change; proposed redevelopment projects in the SODO, Chinatown International, and Pioneer Square neighborhoods; and how the promises of the new multifamily zoning code are holding up in actual practice. These policies, proposals, and projects carry long-term consequences for the look and lifestyle of our various neighborhoods and for Seattle as a whole. To join the Land Use Committee and follow these and

other upcoming issues that affect our city, please contact Karen Kane at (206) 329-4848, or kanek@iopener.net.

PRIVATIZATION

Join the committee! Come be a part of the effort to track what is going on. At both the state and local levels, officials are privatizing services, functions, and assets. It’s occurring in schools, prisons, transportation, and elsewhere. There is a lot we can do to educate ourselves and to act on this issue. One early project will be organizing the February forum. We will meet monthly at the League office. Contact Nora Leech if you are interested: lwvseattlenora@yahoo.com.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 17, 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: LEAGUE OFFICE

SPEAKER: TO BE ANNOUNCED

VOTE BY MAIL STUDY COMMITTEE

Call for members! The League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) has a long tradition of tackling cutting edge topics in our studies. As recently as National Convention in 2010, our proposal for a national Privatization Study was adopted and our own work on the subject is receiving national attention.

At the 2011 annual meeting, LWVS adopted a Vote by Mail Study as our newest study project. Voting by mail has seen an enormous increase in usage in the past two decades, particularly on the West Coast and Pacific Rim. With Washington State having become 100% Vote-by-Mail in 2011, the timing is right for a study of this voting method. Our time frame is just under one year, culminating in a forum in (we hope) May 2012. (Forum dates are not yet firm for 2012.)

If you are interested in serving on the Vote by Mail Study Committee, please contact our office at (206) 329-4848, or the committee chair at julie@kempf.com.

We have roles in which you can serve at any commitment level. Are you available weekdays, or only nights and weekends? Can you give an hour a month or twenty? No matter: if you are interested in this issue, we have a role for you on the study team.

King County Connects - Announcements



BEYOND SPIN

THE 35TH POLITICAL PARTY & AUCTION

October 23, 2011

League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County

Have you noticed that there has been a lot of spin about ‘Spin’ spinning around the League? Let us clarify that spin, or better yet remove the spin all together. Because one thing we know about the League of Women Voters is—we are **Beyond Spin!**

Appropriately, our annual political party and auction has been designed to honor the theme “Beyond Spin” with our choice of a keynote speaker, nationally known author Stephanie Coontz. She has devoted her professional life to matters beyond spin—as a popular professor at Evergreen State College, in her award winning books, *A Strange Stirring: The Feminine Mystique and American Women at the Dawn of the 1960s* and *Mad Women: Wives and Daughters of the Greatest Generation*, and (on Mother’s Day 2011) with an op-ed article in the *New York Times*.

Also at this year’s event, set for Sunday, October 23 at the downtown Red Lion, you’ll find a return to the auction, a delicious dessert auction, book sales and signing, two new award categories, and (of course!) the conviviality always found at a League event.

Yes, that’s right. **The Auction is back!** You asked for it, you got it! Please start identifying items you and your unit will donate, as well as the businesses, friends, and organizations you will ask to donate items.

And while you are thinking about your friends, please start inviting them to sit at your Beyond

Spin table of eight. As part of our campaign this year to do aggressive “friendraising,” we recommend that you include at least four non-Leaguers on your invitation list. Complete Table Captain Information Kits will be

available shortly, with tips on “how to do it.” For more information on how you as a table captain can help make Beyond Spin a huge success, contact Ginna Owens at (206) 329-4848.

A terrific team has been working hard since February to plan this exciting event and, of course, there are still plenty of opportunities for you to join the fun. How would you like to be involved? It’s not too late to join the planning team but we need volunteers for all phases of the preparation. In fact, an immediate need is for a Volunteer Coordinator. So whether you like to plan a raffle, design displays, call on businesses, pull together beautiful baskets, or do data entry, we have a way you can be part of the team. Please call Lindsay at (206) 329-4848 if you would like to help.

So—start assembling the guest list for your table and let us know if we can count on your help. Please contact our event chair, Kathy Sakahara, at (206) 329-4848 or event.seattleklwv@gmail.com to say you are ready to roll up your sleeves and join the fun!

Further information about the event, volunteer needs, and the award nomination forms are available at www.seattlelwv.org.

HELP WANTED

CALL FOR AUGUST FORUM VOLUNTEERS

Help wanted the evening of Thursday, August 4 for timers (to time the speakers' responses), greeters and guides to assist the invited speakers, and, most urgently, volunteers to set up and clean up. Set up volunteers should arrive around 6:00 p.m., and clean up will take place immediately following the forum at 9:00 – 9:30 p.m. Many hands make light work, so it should be pretty quick.

If you can help, leave a message for Lindsay at the LWVS-KC office: (206) 329-4848 or lindsay@seattlelwv.org.

CALL FOR BALLOT ISSUES SUMMARY

DRAFTERS

For each major election, the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County (LWVS-KC) provides the public with Ballot Issue Summaries to aid voters in understanding the measures placed on the ballot for their vote.

As we say in our mission statement, LWVS-KC “encourages informed...participation in government.” It is hard for voters to cast an informed vote without plain language materials describing the effect and cost of each ballot measure.

These ballot summaries are not written by themselves (Oh, how we wish they were...!). They are drafted, edited, and reviewed by local League members. Perhaps one of those helpful League members this year could be you? Would you like to help draft or edit the ballot summaries for the November election? What better way to help your community than by helping people learn about issues so that they may cast an informed vote?

Much of the research can be done by phone and on the internet. If you have access to both, and if you want to take an active role in League, this is an excellent opportunity for you, even if you have limited transportation or mobility.

If you're interested in volunteering to draft or edit ballot summaries, please contact our office at (206) 329-4848, or write to info@lwvseattle.org. Please put “ballot summary volunteer” in the subject line of any e-mail. We will provide training—either one-on-one at a place convenient to you or in the office.

BUDDIES, CAN YOU SPARE A . . .

. . . good pop-up rain and sun CANOPY for use by our Valiant Voter Registrars? Voter Services V.P. Cyndi Woods says, “we have an umbrella but it means we have to lug a bag of sand and a bucket to hold it up. A canopy would be delightful.”

Here it is summer and that means it's “clean out the garage” time! If you have a canopy you no longer need, please consider passing it along to LWVS-KC for use in our ongoing voter registration efforts. Pick-up can be arranged. Leave word for Cyndi at the office: (206)

329-4848.

BE IT RESOLVED—A CALL TO ACTION

BY TONI POTTER

At the LWVWA state convention in May, I submitted a resolution about the Citizens United decision handed down last year by the United States Supreme Court. The resolution passed easily.

Apparently the problem of money and disclosure in elections is an issue much on the minds of Leaguers because various people immediately said that it was an issue they were interested in working on. A committee will have met before this *Voter* comes out, but there is still much to be done.

While a former president of LWVUS, Mary G. Wilson, has made public statements decrying the decision, LWVUS has decided that it is more important to lobby for bills supporting disclosure and transparency than to press to “overturn” Citizens United by supporting an amendment to the Constitution. Some of us may wish to try to change this at the next National convention. Meanwhile, public education is important and it takes lots of people to make these things happen.

Please write to Toni Potter at antoniapotter@comcast.net and put LWV in the title or call (206)

329-4848 to discuss what you can do to help. The committee will need people with research skills, writing skills, organization skills, and people to pass out materials or make phone calls. As I said at State Convention, I believe the public needs to know how threatened our democracy is at present. What issue could be more important? How effective can League action be, on issues that League cares about, if corporations are considered to have the same rights as people? Below is the resolution.

Our democracy is in peril. The Citizen's United decision of the US Supreme Court said that corporations have the same rights as persons to free speech, including political speech. This allows corporate entities to spend unlimited amounts to influence election outcome and lawmaking. The LVW of US has made it clear that the League's position is to change this.

Therefore be it resolved the President of the LWV of WA appoint a committee to gather supplemental material particularly as it applies to WA state to be sent to all local leagues along with suggestions about how to disseminate this information beyond league members to the general public.

CALL TO ACTION REPORT

LWVS-KC sent out this Call to Action through its "Constant Contact" system on July 13:

Authorization of \$20 Congestion Reduction Charge

On July 25th, the King County Council will vote whether to authorize a \$20 Congestion Reduction Charge (CRC) that would be assessed to each motor vehicle license renewal for a maximum of two years. The legislature provided this measure to County transit agencies in the last moments of the 2011 session. It requires a "super majority"—6 of the 9 members—of the county council to authorize the charge. A simple majority of five can vote to send the issue to the November ballot so that the voters can make the decision. Sending it to the ballot will cost \$1,000,000 and add uncertainty and delay for Metro planning.

The League has long supported adequately funded, balanced transportation that provides a seamless

system that takes into account the environment, energy use, and social factors. As discussed in Voter articles, Metro Transit officials have met with the League Transportation Committee many times to describe their efforts to cope with the extreme decline in sales tax (their primary source of revenue) because of the economic crisis. **Without the funds from this \$20 CRC, Metro will have to cut 600,000 service hours in the next two years.**

Please contact the County Council. See page 20 of our 2011 *They Represent You* for contact information for your individual council representative or email him or her at firstname.lastname@kingcounty.gov. You may reach the whole council at (206-296-1000 or email them at council@kingcounty.gov. **Urge them to approve the measure themselves rather than placing it on the ballot.** Only 4 of the 9 members have committed to dealing with this problem in the Council and saving the \$1,000,000. Other of the members have said that that their constituents do not use public transportation (even though there are certainly both transit users and drivers in all parts of the County who will be affected by the cuts) or that this is an issue that should be decided by the voters.

For more information on the issue Google "Metro Transit Funding Crisis."

SIX THUMBS UP!

The treasurer is delighted to report that our staunch and energetic units have added \$3600 to our coffers.
Well done!



King County Connects - League News

SPRING FLING REPORT

The Education Fund went big this year with their Spring Fling: a tour of the Chinese Garden, a peek at the adjoining Seattle Arboretum, and a similarly themed luncheon at the Brockey Center at South Seattle Community College. Beth Takekawa, Executive Director of the Wing Luke Museum, introduced the keynote speaker, Connie So, Senior Lecturer in the American Ethnic Studies Department, University of Washington. She spoke of the differences in demographics among the various waves of Asian immigration to the United States.

A bit later, things did get a little rowdy as guests competed for scrumptious desserts in the Dessert Dash.

Denise Smith and Laura Weese, Ed Fund co-presidents, and board members Ruth Schroeder and Kris Bushley spearheaded the successful fundraising event. Spring Fling provided an interesting and fun afternoon as well as an opportunity for folks to make tax-deductible contributions to the LWVS Ed Fund. Total net income to the Education Fund to support the Voter Service and Education activities exceeded \$24,000.

Thanks to all who attended and volunteered.

STATE CONVENTION

BY KATHY JORGENSEN

Kathy Jorgenson, from King County South, has sent her wrap-up of State Convention. That will serve as our main report for this important biennial event; following it are some briefer reflections from other Seattle League members who attended. You'll find Toni Potter's call-to-action report on her convention resolution on page 11.

The LWV of King County South was represented at the Washington State LWV convention by Kathy Jorgensen, Cindy Piennett, Mary Ehlers, and Becky Cox. [Editor's note: The Seattle League delegation comprised Ellen Barton, Judy Bevington, Joanna Cullen, Nancy Eitreim, Allison Feher, Raelene Gold, Julie Anne Kempf, Katie Ortiz, Ginna Owens, Toni Potter, Kathleen Randall, Kathy Sakahara, Dana Twight, Janet Winans, and Cyndi Woods.]

The first order of convention business was the state board meeting on Thursday evening. Of significant interest to the King County South and Seattle Leagues, the State of Washington League approved the proposed merger of these two leagues, to be known as the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County. This name falls in line with other leagues that have merged and where the city is named first, followed by the county. The merger needs to be approved by the League of Women Voters of the United States; it is anticipated that approval will happen in the near future. Delegates from King County South and Seattle met separately to discuss details of the merger. Two board members will be selected from King County South to serve on the S-KC Board.

Prior to the commencement of convention business on Friday, George Last, president of the

Lake Lewis Chapter of the Ice Age Flood Initiative, explained the formation of the geological features of the Columbia River Basin. During the last ice age a massive amount of water had been held back by an ice dam. When the dam broke, the Missoula flood followed; the water carved out the basin and deposited boulders throughout the region. The Missoula flood explains the existence of the multiple dry waterfalls in the area.

The National League was represented by two members of their board: Norman Turrill, from Portland, Oregon, the first man to serve on the national board and Marcia Merrins, from Buffalo, New York. The major “buzz” at the convention was a controversial ad aired by the national LWV, with funding provided by the Sierra Club. This ad aired in Massachusetts and Missouri and denounced the nay votes of Senators Claire McCaskill (D-Mo) and Scott Brown (R-MA) against the re-authorization of the Clean Air Act. The caption at the end of both ads read “Brought to you by the League of Women Voters.” (To view the ads, go to the rollcall.com website and search there for “League of Women Voters hits Brown, McCaskill.”). See also the statement by LWVUS president Elisabeth MacNamara on the LWVUS website at www.lwv.org.

Marcia Merrins defended the ad as being acceptable in view of the League’s position on clean air and public health. Many in attendance disagreed and asserted that the ads were in violation of the League’s principles, its nonpartisan policy, and that they potentially jeopardized the League’s 91-year reputation for fairness and nonpartisanship.

Prior to the start of Convention, the Kitsap County League had prepared a resolution denouncing the ads. During the caucus sessions on Friday and Saturday nights, the resolution was revised by the Kitsap, Pierce, Seattle, and King County South leagues. During the floor debate on Sunday, it underwent a number of amendments, and ultimately passed as amended. King County

South supported the resolution.

Workshops on Friday included Voter Services/ Voter Registration, Program Planning, and Civil Discourse in Partisan Times. Assisting with voter registration has been one of the core services of the league. However, it has been found to be ineffective merely to have a presence at a festival without a “draw” to the voter registration table. Effective venues for voter registration include naturalization ceremonies, farmers markets, and retail establishments. It was also suggested that voter registration drives could be partnered with other organizations.

President Linnea Hirst encouraged the delegates present to remember the League of Women Voters of all levels in their estate plan.

On Saturday Mike Schwenk, Vice President of Battelle, spoke on the need to educate policy makers regarding science and the potential consequences of policy decisions on the environment and human health.

Kathy Hibbard, of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, gave a talk entitled “Climate Change and Humans: What is our Future?” She said that the models for the emissions of carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide do not work. The current goal is to limit climate change to an increase of no more than 2 degrees centigrade. Without implementing practices to control climate change, it will be necessary to develop carbon capture technology.

Ultimately, Hibbard continued, there is a need to reduce the demand for energy. One of the risks of cultivating bio-energy crops is a decrease in the production of agricultural crops and an adverse affect on the global food supply. Recent forest management practices (fire suppression) have created undergrowth in the forest and that has provided an unlimited supply of fuel for forest fires. As a result, forest fires burn hotter, faster, affect the canopy, and leave the soil sterile.

Jill Conrad, Tribal Affairs Program Manager for the Department of Energy at Hanford, talked about the history of vibrant trade along the Columbia River among the various tribes. The Columbia River is a regional waterway as well as a source of power and irrigation; Conrad advocated the protection of cultural and heritage resources of Native Americans.

Marcia Merrins' talk was called "The League, Non Partisanship, and Elections in a New Era." The League's reputation is enhanced by its ability to provide unbiased information in a safe, civil environment. She suggested that each league review its nonpartisan policy every year, preferably at the first board meeting.

As someone who has moderated both issue forums and candidate forums, I found the Saturday workshop on moderator training helpful. Specifically, we were advised to have a script, to describe the format and ground rules in advance, and to state that no recording would be allowed and that all cell phones and recording devices should be turned off.

In a talk on Saturday evening, Lura Powell, the nonpartisan chair of the State Redistricting Commission, described the history of the redistricting process in Washington and the challenge of drawing district boundaries to ensure that each district has close to the same number of people while setting the boundaries so as not to divide existing political boundaries.

On Sunday morning an amendment to the state by-laws and the budget were approved. The recommended program, "A One-year Update of Energy Positions with Emphasis on Biomass," was adopted. A non-recommended study by the Seattle league on privatization of governmental services was also approved. Two resolutions were approved. The first concerned the LWVUS ad, described above. The second pertained to forming a committee to gather supplemental material to

change the effects of the Citizen's United decision in the Supreme Court.

The four of us left the convention energized and excited for our new merged League.

CONVENTION RUMINATIONS

BY GINNA OWENS

It was an honor to be included in the roster of Seattle league members attending the 2011 State Convention in Richland on May 20 – 22nd. As a comparative newcomer to this League, I found that Convention offered an unparalleled opportunity to meet other leaguers and become better acquainted with the breadth of league work in Washington. The privatization discussions and debates that culminated in a statewide endorsement of our local league's study and action agenda filled me with pride—as did the special honor, the Dorothy Roberts Award, bestowed upon our friend, Elizabeth Davis. Furthermore, what could have been an arduous car ride each way became instead an opportunity for interesting dialogue with fellow passengers Janet Winans and Ellen Barton.

CONNECTION AT CONVENTION

BY JOANNA CULLEN

The opportunity to meet and to work with others from around the region strengthens bonds across the State and reminds us that there are others from outside our immediate circles who share our concerns and are as passionate about our mission as LWVS. I especially enjoyed working with Annette Holcomb, from Bellingham-Whatcom County, who led the effort for concurrence on the Seattle Privatization Study. It passed! This certainly had great support from Tacoma and others around the state too.

The opportunity to attend workshops led by fellow Board members Julie Anne Kempf, Cyndia Woods, and Ginna Owens was a reminder to

appreciate the important leadership that they provide to LWVS. The speakers and presenters for the entire convention covered a good range of topics and were interesting. I would recommend any of them.

The Benton-Franklin Counties League did a great job of welcoming us all and made it look easy, but I know that behind the scenes they were really working hard. The Columbia River is a beautiful river, and the Richland community has done a great job of providing a wonderful

biking and walking area. This—along with the presentation on the Ice Age Flood—deepened the experience of the area and its geography. It was a relief from the many convention sites that seem almost indistinguishable from one another, each surrounded with retail that can be found in any city.

While we did actually work, I returned feeling refreshed and more deeply connected to the League.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT: THE NEW OLD IDEA

BY JANET WINANS

At the June meeting we heard from two of our guest speakers, Chuck Lare and Peter Sherwin, that the use of electric trolley buses (ETBs) is a “new” old idea in transportation. According to them, ETBs are the dominant vehicle for urban transit in Europe while the diesel internal combustion engine buses (DBs) dominate in the United States. They report that Metro Transit ETBs are at the end of their useful lives and must be replaced, even in this time of economic austerity. Mr. Lare and Mr. Sherwin have testified before the county council that now is the time for new thinking.

Regardless of all other comparisons, they say, diesel buses (DBs) are noisy and pollute the air and use price-volatile fossil fuel. They point out that Seattle has the electrical infrastructure in place to continue to use ETBs. In calculating the cost of choosing DBs, the county should consider the cost of removing those wires along with the lost investment in the skilled electrical mechanics working now for Metro. Also, according to Mr. Lare and Mr. Sherwin, there are other significant advantages to the ETB. The state of the art buses manufactured in Europe can go “off wire” on their own self-generated electric power, as opposed to the switching back and forth between

electric and diesel that the present Seattle buses must do. These new ETBs, they claim, can be used across areas between wires and around detours at construction sites, etc. The new ETBs are more powerful than DB engines, handle hills better, require less maintenance, and have longer useful lives. These are all issues that should be included in any decision process for purchasing new vehicles.

Mr. Lare and Mr. Sherwin presented another idea, as well. They are trying to convince Metro that the funds Metro will have to expend to purchase the new fleet can be used as an investment to persuade an area company like Pac Car or Boeing to set itself up to manufacture ETBs. They report that Portland has made such an investment; their electric train cars are manufactured in Portland. They urged LWVS-KC to advocate for their idea with other organizations. The committee found it intriguing: Smart Transportation Choices that circulate their expenses within the local economy.

Brock Howell from Transportation Choices Coalition (TCC) was our third speaker. TCC was the central public transportation lobbying organization at the legislative session; they advocate for the Smart Transportation Choices we

are working toward. He discussed the legislation that has enabled the county council to debate whether to levy a \$20 Congestion Reduction Charge (CRC) by a “super majority” of council members or to send it to the November ballot with a vote of 5 members. He reports that without that \$20 from the owners and drivers of vehicles in the county Metro will have to cut 600,000 service hours in the next 2 years.

The committee decided that this is an issue we can and should address. Following the procedures of the Seattle League, we have begun the process to join the TCC as a member and endorsing organization. We have also sent a message to all Seattle League members telling them about the super majority or 5 member vote on the \$20 CRC.

Voter Service

VOTER REGISTRATION

BY CYNDI GODDARD WOODS, LWVS-KC VICE PRESIDENT AND CO-CHAIR,
VOTER SERVICES

The League of Women Voters of Seattle teamed up with King County Elections this year for the 4th of July naturalization ceremony at Seattle Center. Thanks to our combined efforts, more than 50 people registered to vote on Independence Day. Every year on the 4th of July there is a huge naturalization ceremony to swear in new citizens. This year over 500 people became US citizens. What better opportunity to help these new citizens register to vote!

This year, for the first time, we shared a table with King County Elections. We met with the new citizens standing in line to receive their naturalization papers and helped them fill out the voter registration document. Many of them were excited to fill out the form so that they would be able to vote in the next election. You can't imagine how gratifying it is to know that we're helping people who have worked so hard to become citizens exercise their new rights.

I want to thank Jan Orlando, Dana Twight, and Andrea Carey for volunteering at this special event.

I'm looking forward to collaborating with King County Elections in more Voter Services opportunities this year. Please contact the League office at (206) 329-4848 if you'd like to volunteer with us to register voters.

Getting Connected by Dana Twight, Membership Chair

Welcome to our new members from King County South, now part of the Seattle-King County League. We are looking forward to getting to know our recently transferred KCS members and learning about South King County issues. Here's a communiqué to start us off. Concerned about the effects of secondhand smoke, **Georgette Valle**, a KCS member transferring to Seattle, reports that she had a successful day in Olympia lobbying to stop the cigar room bill, SB5542. It had passed the Senate but failed to get a hearing in the House. And an article in the July 13, 2011, Tukwila Reporter said that former Washington State Representative and Burien City Councilmember **Georgette Valle** was the Grand Marshal of the Burien Independence Day Parade. In the next few months we hope to share more about our new members.

Thank you to Kelly Powers who took the lead on ensuring a smooth transition for our south end neighbors. We welcome your presence, input, and action! Please extend a welcoming hand to anyone you may see at a forum or unit meeting as our transfer members explore these activities.

I am enjoyably learning all of the membership systems, processes, and databases. I'm being schooled by Ms. Powers. Please feel free to ask me questions and I will learn from your requests. I will be in the throes of the three Rs—Recruiting, Renewals, and Retention!

For those of you who don't know me, I joined Seattle League in 2007 and have spent most of my energy on the Civics Education Committee (which will need a new chair!). Along with members of that committee, I worked on the 2008 Election partnership with The Seattle Times Newspapers in Education, Civics Trivia, the 2010 forum

“Making Democracy Work,” and—for Women's History Month—the 2011 forum “Women in Media.” I enjoy public service and have served on boards of education, financial literacy, and workforce development organizations, in addition to the Seattle AAUW.

In the next few months I look forward to visiting units, working with new members to determine their League interests, and making sure that all of our members want to ask their friends to join us for study and action on issues that are important to us, at all levels of government.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT AWARDS

What follows is an approximation of the remarks made by President-Elect Judy Bevington as she presented the Carrie Chapman Catt awards at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Seattle.

Carrie Chapman Catt lived in Seattle in 1891. She was the founder and first president of the Woman's Century Club, as well as a leader in the state and national suffrage movement. Through her efforts, the Suffrage Association made a transition to the National League of Women Voters. Catt returned to Washington in 1898 to work on the State Campaign for suffrage. We owe much to her.

We also owe much to the two recipients of our annual Carrie Chapman Catt award.

The Honorable **Nancy Rust** served as State Representative from 1980 to 1996. She was one of the founding members of the Shoreline Unit in the 70's. (She remembers my now grown son as a little pest at the unit meetings.) She has also served as a State Board member.



Nancy Rust

Nancy was active in the development of Shoreline Management regulations. I traipsed down to Olympia with her to lobby at the DOE; we also lobbied at local hearings. Audrey Gruger, another member of the Shoreline unit, encouraged her to run for the state

legislature. While in the legislature she served as Chair of the House Environmental Affairs Committee. She played an important role in the passage of legislation on oil spill prevention and cleanup, clean air, solid waste recycling, and growth management. In retirement, she has continued to work on water resource management.

She is a wonderful example of a Leaguer putting her skills to work, living a life of informed advocacy.

Thank you, Nancy

Toni Potter is another member of the Shoreline Unit and a State Board member. She has traipsed down to Olympia to lobby for legislation to control climate change for 17 years. She is renowned for her tireless, focused, skilled advocacy on one of the most vital issue of our times.

Toni has worked beyond League to support candidates who voted for issues she supported. She has forged links with like-minded groups, for instance, Climate Solutions. She's worked locally with Lake Forest Park government on instituting environmentally friendly policies.

Toni persuaded me to develop a new unit closer to our homes, the North King County unit. The

NKC unit is working to develop an environmental committee. Personally, she sets an example of sustainable, environmental living: she recycles, composts, shops at Goodwill, and drives a Prius. But don't go to lunch with her—you'll be required to figure its carbon footprint!

Toni is a second, fine example of someone who has given tirelessly to League and to her community, someone who is putting information into action and making a difference for all of us. Before Gore!

Thank you, Toni.

I hope we will be inspired by these two fine women, women who are models of informed activism. Let's all find the issues that we care about and work to implement good policies to deal with them.



Toni Potter

LIFETIME MEMBERS, PART I

By Kelly Powers, 2nd VP, Outreach

At the Annual Meeting in May we recognized the members who had celebrated their 50th anniversary of League membership between July 2010 and June 2011. This year's Lifetime Members are: Nadine Baker, Margaret Ceis, Jo Dawson, Carol Goldenberg, Virginia Gunby, Ann Ormsby, Laura Weese, and Karla Wight.

As part of honoring these Lifetime Members, the Membership Chair interviews each of them to learn more about their League experience. Learning more about each of these members as

individuals and discovering their fascinating connections to League history as well as to local and national events is one of the highlights of the membership portfolio.

The Seattle League has the distinction of having 52 current Lifetime members; that's 2,600 years of League membership!

Here are the first three of these interviews. The remaining interviews will be published in the September *Voter*.

Jo Dawson: Community Focus

“When my children were in elementary school, several of us were confronted with our first school levy. We wanted to understand school funding and levies. This led us to the League.”

A Seattle native, Jo went to BF Day Elementary, Hamilton Junior High, and then Lincoln High School. She attended the UW and met her husband, a returning World War II serviceman. Soon enough they started a family and she became a stay-at-home mom—a den mother and PTA and Scout leader. Later on, in the 1960s, she worked with 500 neighbors to develop the first Community Plan for Haller Lake Community. She has been involved in every community plan

since that time. She continues to attend planning meetings to update the Broadview/Bitter Lake/Haller Lake Urban Village Plan.

When asked about her League experiences, Jo shared a story many of us can relate to. She participated in a League study on Congress and

decided it wasn't for her. It's too difficult to decide how to cut 30 pages down to 15!

She is known for the luncheon auctions she hosted at her house; they raised thousands of dollars for League. She also served on the Membership Committee, helping to strengthen League membership. Jo was involved with several community organizations, but she values the League's continuing education opportunities, its people, and the lasting friendships she has formed.



Carol Goldenberg

Carol Goldenberg – International Peace

When Carol and her husband returned to Seattle in the 1950s after the Korean War, they decided to start a family. What would the world be like for her children? She received a BA in political science from the University of Washington and wanted to continue working on world affairs but knew that her life would be full. She had to choose her commitments wisely. Carol decided to join the League of Women Voters. As a teacher, she appreciated the League's informed approach to a wide range of issues.

Carol served on the Seattle and Washington State League Boards and served on the LWVUS Human Rights Task Force. She chaired the League's International Relations Committee, working to increase the League's engagement on international issues. Both her League work and her work as the Director of the Seattle Chapter of the United Nations Association dovetailed beautifully with her deep and abiding concern for peace and justice, for building support for the



Jo Dawson

United Nations, and for international law. She participated in many outstanding studies over the years and organized the Empowering Women Globally program one summer. Carole arranged the screening of a film on nuclear terrorism that led to the Seattle League's involvement in the nuclear disarmament issue.

Mayor Norm Rice proclaimed October 23, 1993, Carol Goldenberg Day in Seattle. Carol was the recipient of the LWVS Carrie Chapman Catt award in 2004.

Carol treasures the wonderful people in the League who inspire and energize each other to tackle issues. She admires the incredible work and professional approach of the League.

Her advice to new members: Be as involved as possible! "The League is one of the most enriching things in my life."

Laura Weese - Public Policy & Civics Education Teacher

Laura and her husband moved to Seattle in June 1959 from Rochester, NY, and not long after that Sheila Bodemer persuaded Laura to join the University unit. Laura worked part-time as a teacher when her children were young. During the Boeing Bust teachers were being laid off in droves, and with more time on her hands, Laura decided to get more involved with the League. She worked on the Education Committee that considered the national movement to decentralize schools and increase community involvement.

After her family returned from a trip to Malaysia and she was turning 40, she wondered, "What next?" Jocelyn Marchisio asked her to join the State Board. Her portfolio was the Status of

Women, Welfare, and Housing. What a time for that portfolio! In 1972 the State ERA had been ratified and the Seattle League, under Dorothy Young Sale's leadership, was actively working on the issue. For a time Laura was in Olympia every week during the session. It was a fantastic learning opportunity that inspired her to go to the UW School of Public



Laura Weese

Affairs. She brought a lot of everyday life stories into the discussions about politics during graduate school. And during graduate school, through League connections, she worked as a legislative intern for the Senate Committee Services, a non-partisan research arm of the Senate.

After graduate school, in 1979, Laura joined the professional staff for the University of Washington Graduate School of Public Affairs. She worked with students to help them find paid internships and job placements. She also helped

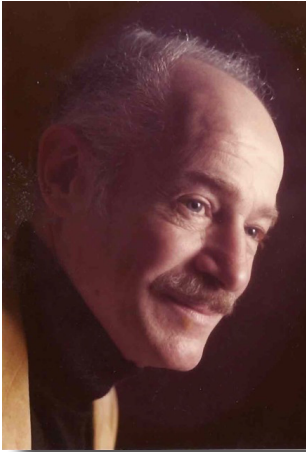
coordinate the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program, which brought mid-career professionals from developing countries to the U.S. for a year (under the Fulbright Program). Her experience living overseas—in India from 1962-63 and in Malaysia in 1972—was very important for her work with the Humphrey Fellowship Program.

In 1994, she returned to teaching and taught general education and US government at various private high schools. There were many opportunities to use League materials—such as the *TRY* and *The State We're In*—as supplemental teaching materials.

Laura remains very active in the League. Two years ago she established a link between LWVS and the John Stanford Public Service and Political Science Academy at Franklin High School. Most recently she served as Co-President of the League of Women Voters of Seattle Education Fund and brought her personal flair to the Spring Luncheon!

In Memoriam

SAMUEL GOLDENBERG – 1921-2011



Long-time League member Sam Goldenberg died Saturday, June 18, at age 90. He is survived by his wife, Carol, and four children.

For Sam, serendipitous events became causes for reflection and setting his own course. The first occurred when his immigrant parents arrived

at Ellis Island; it was overflowing, so they sailed on to Galveston, Texas. On disembarking, they were sent on to Burlington, Iowa, where they settled and raised their family of three sons. Part of a miniscule minority of Jewish families, Sam learned early on to appreciate what is universal beneath our differences. Intelligent, engaging, and a leader, Sam served as student body president in high school and was elected most popular boy in his senior year.

He continued his education at the University of Iowa where he was elected president of his fraternity—on December 7, 1941. On hearing the news of Pearl Harbor, the young men suspended their college life: the next day they all went down and enlisted. This was the second serendipitous event that profoundly shaped Sam's life.

Sam served as a bombardier in Italy, for which he was awarded a Purple Heart and a Silver Star for valor. Flying missions when the cloud cover made it impossible to fix military targets with precision, they were ordered to release bombs on any large buildings they could make out before they attempted to land. Knowing they would hit apartments, offices, and the like, Sam persuaded their commander to let them release their bombs at sea—so saving many lives.

After the war Sam returned to his studies and

earned a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Washington. His subsequent career focused principally on clinical practice. He was part of a busy, dynamic group of psychotherapists with offices in the U District.

In the course of practice, in the late 1960s, Sam encountered two women who found themselves pregnant and unable to care for a child. They were contemplating back-alley abortions. This serendipitous event led Sam to call together a multi-disciplinary committee to study the medical, psychological, religious, and legal aspects of abortion. After a year of intense study, they spent many months drafting legislation that they presented to the state legislature, which punted. The proposed law then became the subject of a referendum that passed with 56% of the vote and thereby made Washington the first state to legalize abortion by assent of the people.

Sam was a fine conceptual thinker and focused much attention on how to fashion diplomatic and peaceful paths to national security. In the 1970s he served as president of the Seattle chapter of the United Nations Association and as a member of the national UNA board. Carol was Executive Director of the local UNA. And so it was there, where they worked together, that their relationship developed. They married in 1974 and had, by Sam's account, a splendid life together.

Sam had many pleasures in his life: travel and civic engagement, as well as tennis, camping, mushrooming, painting, piano playing, and reading. Until the end, he enjoyed his participation with Carol in a book group and a wine tasting group, both decades old, as well as many other informal gatherings. Sam's popularity with his friends never abated; he had a sparkle in his eye that was contagious and a way of giving his attention to others that made them glow.

Sam admired the League and its combination of education and action—a method he used in other contexts. His friends in the View Ridge Unit and on the International Relations Committee will miss him.

BOOK REVIEW by Vicky Downs

Cleopatra: A Life by Stacy Schiff

If G. B. Shaw, Shakespeare, and Hollywood describe the Cleopatra you know, Stacy Schiff will give you a completely different view. No naïve girl, nor hypnotizing femme fatale, nor heavily made-up movie star this! Schiff shows the historical Cleopatra: a supremely well educated, savvy, and dedicated monarch.

Schiff tells us what the ancients, including Plutarch, Cicero, and Dio, have to say and shows how they do not always tell the truth. She wrests out what she believes is most likely to have taken place. For example, she explains how and why the Romans started the idea that Cleopatra used a snake to kill herself and why that scenario is most unlikely. The author goes on to suggest how Cleopatra and her closest assistants really did take their own lives.

Initially, the Romans needed her. Their warriors were good at conquest, but they needed wealth to support an empire. Alexandrian Egyptians were the wealthy, cultural, and intellectual elite of that time. Their astronomers were celebrated before Rome existed. They built the best library in the world and invented “automatic doors and hydraulic lifts, hidden treadmills, and coin-operated machines.” Alexandria was a repository of arts, a paradise of perfumes, and a market whose produce could easily feed all of Rome. Long before he sailed into the impressive harbor at Alexandria, Caesar must have been astonished to see the fire atop the Pharos (lighthouse), undoubtedly the tallest edifice he’d ever beheld. Once on shore, he could not have avoided noticing the sophisticated, smoothly running city, its wealth, and its well-fed, industrious people.

Though he had not met her, he knew Cleopatra by reputation. She spoke more than seven languages well and could converse convincingly with anyone. Unlike Roman women, Egyptian females negotiated their own marriages; they inherited property and were a force to be taken seriously. To explain their strength and competence, Herodotus wrote that Egyptian women urinated “standing up,” so Caesar could not have been surprised that her experienced generals trusted and respected her

I had not remembered that Cleopatra was a daughter of the Ptolemy family from Macedonia, descended from the man whom Alexander the Great left in charge of Egypt. Greek was the language of Ptolemaic rulers, but only Cleopatra learned colloquial Egyptian. She used her ability to speak with local people to convince them that she was indeed the goddess her parents had proclaimed her to be. Her people responded enthusiastically to her visits to the countryside, and more than her ancestors, she was venerated by those who saw her.

However, Cleopatra needed Rome’s military support as much as Rome needed her wealth. This helps explain why Caesar and Cleopatra found it expedient to become sexual partners. Such partnerships were commonly used as a means of cementing relationships between two countries, but these two seemed to take a genuine pleasure in each other. Among other things, they enjoyed a similar sense of humor and were often heard laughing together.

Schiff pictures Cleopatra as an especially intelligent woman with a quick wit, a keen understanding of human character, and a marvelous sense of theater, who communicated to the masses. She was a small, charismatic, though never beautiful woman.

I loved reading about the world as she might have seen it. It seemed that to her, life was a game to be played to the hilt. When she traveled to Rome, she came much like a conqueror, partly by sea but also on land, carried on a lifted throne, surrounded by an enormous entourage, and showing off her power and wealth to the crowds that came to see the goddess who had finally given Caesar a son.

Schiff’s book introduces us to the flavors of another culture in another time. I felt as though I were right there in the crowds. The colors! The perfumes! The music! The number of languages heard, and the knowledge that the most powerful man in the world respected this woman! Oh! What an adventure to read this delightful and informative book!

The opinions in this review are personal and do not represent those of the LWV.

BOOK REVIEW by Vicky Downs*Dreams of the Day* by Mary Doria Russell

I was captivated by the second sentence of this historical novel. "...[M]y little story has become your history. You won't really understand your times until you understand mine."

These are the words of Agnes Shanklin, Russell's heroine. She is a spinster schoolteacher in a little town near Cleveland, Ohio. She reports on events such as the return of her former student from the Great War; he came home, safe, only to be felled by the Great Influenza. As for herself, she says of the following years, "I was older than the lost generation of the Roaring Twenties. I began the decade too shy to dance, too homely to imagine myself of interest even to a maimed veteran, too timid to break the Prohibition laws and risk blindness drinking bathtub gin." But in the end, she yearns for new sights, sounds, and friends. Indeed, she wants to become a new person.

The catalyst for her personal change arrives over the next months when influenza takes the lives of both Agnes's siblings and their families along with her mother and uncle. She spends two years dealing with the papers and belongings of her relatives and in the end finds herself alone with her little dog. Inheriting all her family's wealth, she has also become unexpectedly rich. After a lifetime of her mother's words, "Use it up, wear it out, make it do," she decides she wants something different.

Three days later she owns a completely new and elegant wardrobe and has tickets in hand for a Cook's tour to Egypt. Her sister had been a missionary in the Middle East and had told Agnes about a Neddy Lawrence, her British friend who spoke very good Arabic. Soon, Agnes takes off on what would turn out to be a personal awakening.

Most of the book tells us about the trip. Agnes meets "Neddy" and soon realizes she is talking with T.E. Lawrence, the dashing soldier/government agent later known as Lawrence of Arabia. He is in Egypt for the 1921 Cairo Peace Conference. He in turn introduces her to the young Winston Churchill, a colonial middle minister representing the British government and eager to secure oil for his country. She also meets Gertrude Bell, an intrepid traveler/scholar who wants to negotiate the borders of a new country, one that will be called "Iraq."

At her hotel, Agnes is approached by a charming German eager to show her Cairo. He is especially interested in learning anything she can tell him about Lawrence, Churchill, and her other new English friends. Agnes and the reader quickly suspect the German is a spy, but Agnes likes him and rationalizes that, since she is not British, she can follow her heart!

Her relationship with Churchill and other historical figures seems believable. Lawrence, for reasons of his own, invites her to be his guest at an important dinner before the conference begins. Unaccustomed to drinking wine, Agnes feels anger welling up inside herself at the arrogant talk about lowly "colonials." The only American at the table, she feels disconnected from their uppity British accents, and remembering all she'd taught her fifth graders about early America, she argues on behalf of colonial people. Afterwards, Lawrence seems pleased.

Perhaps because he understands people who speak up, and because he always needs an audience, Churchill invites her on a short trip near the Pyramids. He promptly leaves her alone and begins to paint. With little to do except watch, Agnes notes the extraordinary care and compassion with which the brash young minister talks with a group of off-duty British soldiers and how quickly he brushes away ordinary Arabs. As a result, it is no surprise to later learn that the powers at the conference unhesitatingly rearranged Middle East borders to the ones familiar to us today. The purpose of those borders had everything to do with access to oil and nothing to do with what the Arabs may have wanted.

That same sentiment can be found in Russell's title, which comes from Lawrence's book *The Seven Pillars of Wisdom* (1926) in which he warns of dangerous men who force their "private daydreams" on other people.

Though this novel is flawed—the author has Agnes speak after her death—I salute the author's storytelling expertise. I did not want to skip one word of this interesting book.

The opinions in this review are personal and do not represent those of the LWV.

UNIT DISCUSSIONS OF MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY

BY BEATRICE CRANE, JOANNA CULLEN, AND GINNA OWENS

When units are presented with only discussion questions in their monthly program guide, members often wonder why they are requested to record and return their responses. If there are no consensus questions, the answers cannot affect the League positions. So does anyone bother to wade through those forms that get filled out at the units?

Actually, the forms do get quite a bit of attention. In the first place, the committee in charge of the forum uses them to get a sense of the members' reaction to the topic and to identify possible further areas for exploration and education. The Board is interested not only in suggestions for programs but also in areas in which members would like to see more action.

In addition, unit members often like to compare their responses to those of other units. Summaries of the unit discussions from the March, April, and May meetings follow.

March: Women in Media

Units took the discussion of this topic in various directions, some focusing on their personal experience over the years, some on reactions to media. The questions that units spent the most time on had to do with how to encourage girls and women to be leaders, and how to reduce sexism and violence toward women. On the former subject, specific suggestions included a leadership forum, possibly on a college campus, and support of equal pay for equal work. On the latter, the importance of education of both sexes was frequently stressed. One unit recommended a panel on what schools are doing to improve students' self-image and respect for the opposite sex. Other suggestions included speaking out against exploitation of and discrimination against women in the media and elsewhere; working with other organizations on a program on human trafficking and prostitution; and supporting women's shelters and organizations.

Although the topic seemed to generate lively discussions, one unit found that its members had little interest in it, so the attendance was low.

April: Revenue Shortfalls and Local Impacts

Units were asked to respond to four questions. A summary of responses to each follows.

1. Issues of concern

The issues that came up the most often in unit discussions were cuts in services, problems with the tax structure, and the effect of revenue shortfalls on future generations. In the first category, almost all the units identified cuts to education at all levels as a major concern. Several units also mentioned healthcare funding. In addition, members expressed concern about the effect of shortfalls on public safety, maintenance of streets and sidewalks, the justice system, services for the disabled and homeless, public transportation, and elections.

Units spoke of the regressive nature of the tax system, questionable exemptions, limitations on property tax increases, and inequities in the state and local tax systems. They explored possibilities for increasing revenue sources. Members also expressed worry about the long term effect of shortfalls, especially on employment opportunities for future generations.

2. What members learned

Members gained an understanding of the structural gap between funding and revenue needs; the consequences of dedicated funds in the different levels of government; the long lead time in preparing budgets. The detailed information provided about sources of revenue at the different levels led to discussions about possibilities for adding new and fairer sources. Some members spoke of the need to keep working on a state income tax.

Comments included a request for fewer pie charts and more policy in presentations, and a recommendation that we speak out in favor of taxes and the benefits and services that they make possible.

3. Why we are experiencing shortfalls

Most frequently cited as the cause of the current shortfalls was the recession. The runner-up was the regressive tax system.

4. What the league should do

Work on educating voters was the most popular idea. Specific suggestions in this area included letters to the editor, teach-ins, and updating and distributing the League's tax booklet. Additional recommendations brought up in more than one unit included work on campaign reform, support of a state income tax, lobbying, and building coalitions.

May: Smart Transportation Choices and How to Fund Them

The transportation committee posed nine specific questions to the units. The responses are summarized below.

1. Overall goals to keep in mind when developing transportation policy

Units identified the most important goals as convenience and accessibility for all; adequate sources of funding; and consideration of all environmental implications. These are broad categories; there were many more specific suggestions such as increasing the frequency and punctuality of public transit. Other goals mentioned were efficiency, safety, response to shifting cultural values, and infrastructure to move goods.

2. Is it more important to reduce our dependence on oil or to reduce congestion?

Four units decided that it was more important to reduce our dependence on oil, while six thought

that they were both important. Two units responded that the two were interconnected, another that it was a silly question.

3. If it is more important to reduce congestion, does that mean building more roads for cars or increasing the options for mass transportation and land use planning?

Although no units found that congestion reduction was more important than reducing dependence on oil, most chose to answer this question anyway. It was a landslide vote for mass transit, although one unit did suggest improving the roads we have.

4. Changes that communities should make

Communities should encourage walking by creating urban villages that have shops, services, jobs, and schools close to where people live; discourage driving by limiting and charging for parking, increasing the cost of gas, charging for more than two cars per household, and promoting carpool use; increase transit use by moving to transit-oriented development, improving connections on weekends and evenings, providing convenient Park & Ride locations, and subsidizing public transport; support bicycle use by creating bike paths and lanes; encourage use of energy-efficient cars by providing places to charge electric cars.

5. Preferred methods to fund transportation

All units support tolling for new infrastructure. Most support a miles-driven fee, a road user fee for electric cars, a change in the state constitution to allow gas taxes to be used for transit, and a vehicle excise tax based on the cost of the vehicle. Units were split on the pollution tax for older vehicles, since many felt that this would be hard on people who could not afford newer cars.

6. How members have been affected by or involved in the planning for transportation projects

For the most part, members reported being

affected by detours and lane closures because of highway construction in various areas of King County. They cited work on highways 520, 522, and 99, the Spokane viaduct, and Mercer Street. But there was some discussion of how residents can influence plans. For instance, community action in Issaquah defeated a proposed bypass. Transit issues can also affect elections.

7. Neighborhood improvements that would solve transportation issues

Both existing and wished-for improvements were listed: carpooling, neighborhood shuttles, electric car rentals, Zip cars, more sidewalks, speed bumps, Dial-A-Ride, increased bus service, and high occupancy lanes.

Site-specific innovations or suggestions included: pedestrian lights at Roy, new Totem Lake Transit Center, walker's guide for downtown Seattle, and a parking prohibition on 65th between Ravenna and 20th.

8. Alternatives to cars that League members and their families use

League members use public transit—buses, light rail, and trains. They walk and bicycle, carpool, bundle their errands, and do some of their purchasing online.

9. Transportation-related issues that the League should study

Suggestions for study included transportation systems used in other cities such as Portland; the feasibility of a rail line around Lake Washington; the initiative process; the authority cities have to regulate speeds; tolling; and assessment of previous League positions and actions based on current conditions in order to determine their effectiveness. Units also recommended specific League actions, including educating voters on criteria for transportation decisions and working on a change to the state constitution on the limitations on the use of gas tax revenues.

August Program: Primary Election

Please Join Us at the August Primary Issues Forum

Date: Thursday, August 4, 2011

Time: Social Hour 6:30 – 7:00, Forum 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Place: Seattle First Baptist Church, 1111 Harvard Avenue, Seattle, WA

Please join us for our forum in preparation for the Primary on Tuesday, August 16, 2011.

We have a lively evening planned, starting with a brief discussion of the King County funding structure, and why the Veteran's Levy came about in 2005, and why the County is asking the voters to continue it for another six years in King County Proposition No. 1. Then we will have a rousing discussion of the "Viaduct Replacement Issue" appearing as Referendum 1 on Seattle voters' ballots. We will cap off the evening with a discussion of referendum 1 and surrounding issues from the candidates for the two Seattle races appearing on the ballot: Positions No. 1 and 9 on the Seattle City Council.

We hope you can join us!

In the following pages you will find descriptions of selected ballot measures prepared by the Voter Services Committee of the League of Women Voters of Seattle-King County. **The material in italics is taken directly from the King County Elections website.**

For further assistance with election and voter information, feel free to call the League CIS desk at (206) 329-4848. You may also want to visit the website for King County Elections. Go to www.kingcounty.gov, then on the left, under "Services," choose "Elections."

CITY of SEATTLE Referendum No. 1

City of Seattle -Referendum 1

The Seattle City Council passed Ordinance Number 123542 entering into agreements related to the Alaskan Way Viaduct replacement. Section 6 of that ordinance has been referred to the voters for approval or rejection.

Section 6, if approved, would authorize the City Council to give notice to proceed, beyond preliminary design work, with three agreements concerning the State's proposal to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct with a deep-bore tunnel. Section 6 states:

"The City Council is authorized to decide whether to issue the notice referenced in Section 2.3 of each Agreement. That decision shall be made at an open public meeting held after issuance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement."

Should this ordinance section be:

_____ *Approved*

_____ *Rejected*

This measure requires a simple majority for passage. (Seattle City Charter Article IV.)

This ballot measure will neither permanently approve nor permanently reject the deep-bore tunnel as the alternative to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

The Effect of the Referendum if Approved:

Voter approval of Section 6 (an "approved" vote) would authorize the City Council to issue the notice to proceed beyond the design phase with the agreements to construct, specifically, a deep-bore tunnel to replace the viaduct on SR 99 without requiring another ordinance to be passed by the Seattle City Council.

A decision by the City Council to issue that notice to proceed must still be made at an open public meeting after issuance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement and the Federal Record Of Decision.

Nevertheless, if the ordinance is approved, the Seattle City Council will be able to issue the notice to proceed, and construction on the tunnel will be able to begin almost immediately. There will still be opportunities for opponents to attempt to stop it, but once a major public works project is underway, and construction has begun, it becomes less likely that the project will be stopped or changed substantially.

What Supporters Say in Brief:

People who support the tunnel as the best choice to replace the viaduct say that we have had 10 years of discussion since the Nisqually Earthquake and 10 years of driving on an unsafe major roadway. Another delay now will result in needless expense for the taxpayers. Now is the time to end the discussion and build the deep-bore tunnel.

The Effect if the Referendum Is Rejected:

Voter rejection of Section 6 (a "rejected" vote) would require the Seattle City Council to pass a formal ordinance to issue the notice to proceed with the agreements to construct, specifically, a deep-bore tunnel to replace the viaduct on SR 99 beyond the initial design phase.

If the Seattle City Council is required to pass a formal ordinance, that ordinance would also become subject to referendum if enough signatures are gathered following the Council vote, in a time frame of 30 days at the minimum, potentially more depending upon the effective date of the ordinance. Thus, if the

voters vote to reject the ordinance before them now, construction could be delayed as little as 30 days, and as much as fourteen months.

Many people speculate about what might occur during a brief construction delay, but it is impossible to know what the actual effect of such a delay would be. However, it does open a window of possibility during which the viaduct replacement plan, which currently includes a deep-bore tunnel as the viaduct replacement, could be reviewed or altered before construction is begun.

What Opponents Say in Brief:

People who oppose the deep-bore tunnel as the replacement for the viaduct say that this short delay would not be that costly and would allow the people to go back to the drawing board to craft a replacement for the viaduct that the people can support. The deep-bore tunnel has never been the public's preferred alternative in any poll; it is hugely expensive and has no exits within the core of Seattle's downtown.

Times are changing, automobile technology is changing, and a brief delay will allow clearer heads to prevail with a much less costly alternative such as the surface plus transit or rebuilt-retrofitted viaduct options.

For more information about the tangible effect(s) of Referendum 1, and the larger related issue of the viaduct replacement, please see the following:

- *The Voters Pamphlet*, versions covering Seattle, published by King County Elections and arriving in mailboxes between July 27 – August 4
- *The Voters Pamphlet* is also available on the King County Elections website: www.kingcounty.gov/elections

Additional information about this election and the voter's pamphlet statements:

The Seattle Ethics and Elections website: http://www2.seattle.gov/ethics/elpub/el_home.asp

Additional information about the referendum and initiative process specific to the City of Seattle:

The Seattle City Clerk's website: <http://www.seattle.gov/leg/clerk>

The committee supporting approval:

Let's Move Forward: Approve Ref. 1
PO BOX 2505
SEATTLE, WA 98111
Phone: 206-234-8303
www.letsmoveforward.org

The committee urging rejection:

Protect Seattle Now
PO BOX 17385
SEATTLE, WA 98127
Phone: 206-913-3725
www.protectseattlenow.org

City of TUKWILA Proposition No. 1

City of Tukwila - Proposition No. 1 - Formation and Funding of Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District

Tukwila Resolution No. 1738 proposes creation of the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District, coextensive with the City's boundaries pursuant to RCW 35.61, including the authority to levy a general tax on property within the District each year, not to exceed 15 cents per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, for the purpose of acquiring and operating a pool facility. The Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District is to be governed by the City Council of the City of Tukwila, serving as the Board of Commissioners in an ex officio capacity.

___ *FOR THE FORMATION OF A TUKWILA POOL METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT TO BE GOVERNED BY THE TUKWILA CITY CO*

___ *AGAINST THE FORMATION OF A TUKWILA POOL METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT*

This measure requires a simple majority (50% plus one vote) to pass (RCW 84.55.010).

The Effect of the Proposition if Approved:

If approved by the voters, this ballot measure would authorize the creation of the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District, encompassing the same boundaries as the City of Tukwila. The City of Tukwila currently operates and maintains the City of Tukwila Pool.

The City does not have the funding resources to continue to manage, maintain, and operate the pool. If this proposition is approved, the Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District would be created to maintain and operate the Tukwila Pool. The Park District would essentially be a part of city government, as they would share the same borders, and the same elected officials. The Tukwila City Council would be the Pool Park Commissioners

The Tukwila Pool Metropolitan Park District would have authority to levy taxes in order to maintain and manage the pool. This is authority that the city does not have currently. Granting this authority, so as to provide ongoing funding for the pool, is the only change in practice that passage of this measure would accomplish.

The District would have all the powers enumerated in Ch. 35.61 RCW including the power to levy an annual tax on all taxable property within the district in an amount not to exceed 15 cents per \$1000 of assessed valuation. The District would also have the authority to issue debt and to exercise the right of eminent domain. The District would be governed by the Tukwila City Council, serving as the Board of Commissioners.

Those in favor of Tukwila Pools Proposition No. 1 say:	Those against Tukwila Pools Proposition No. 1 say:
A public pool is an important city facility, especially in a working class city such as Tukwila, where few families can afford a pool at home. Proposition 1 is needed to ensure that resources are available to maintain our current pool for our residents' use. A public pool is important for sports training, fitness swimming, water safety and lifesaving classes, and safe, clean fun when the weather is hot.	A public pool is an amenity, not a necessary city facility. We are in the middle of a financial crisis, many taxpayers are struggling, and yet another tax is being proposed. This seems unreasonable.
The highest taxes that could be levied for the pool are just 15 cents per 1,000 in assessed valuation. The average Tukwila home is worth about \$200,000. For such a home, \$30 a year would be the highest this tax could be under RCW CH 35.61.	\$30 per year can be a lot to a struggling family, and a public pool is not an essential city facility.

KING COUNTY Proposition No. 1

King County - Proposition No. 1 - Veterans and Human Services Levy

The King County council has passed Ordinance No. 17072 concerning funding for regional veterans, health, and human services. This proposition would replace an expiring levy and fund capital facilities and services that reduce medical costs, homelessness, and criminal justice system involvement with half of proceeds supporting veterans and their families. It would authorize King County to levy an additional property tax of 5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2012 and authorize annual increases by the percentage increase in the consumer price index or 1%, whichever is greater, with a maximum increase of 3%, for the five succeeding years. Should this proposition be:

Approved: _____ Rejected: _____

This measure requires a Simple majority (50% + 1 vote) for approval (RCW 84.55.010).

The Effect of the Proposition if Approved:

If approved by voters, Proposition 1 would authorize King County to levy an additional regular property tax at the rate of five cents (\$0.05) or less per one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of assessed valuation on all taxable property within King County to fund regional health and human services for veterans and military personnel, their families, and other needy residents. The tax calculates out to approximately 20 dollars per year on a \$400,000 home.

The levy would be authorized for a six-year period with collection beginning in 2012 and would replace a levy expiring this year that voters approved in 2005. In years two through six of the levy, annual increases would be authorized up to the greater of 1% or the percentage increase in the consumer price index, up to a maximum of 3%.

Services funded by the levy that are specifically for veterans and military personnel and their families would include treatment for posttraumatic stress disorder, specialized employment assistance, and services that increase self-sufficiency.

Services that would also be available to other residents in need would include mental health counseling, substance abuse prevention and treatment, employment assistance, housing assistance, homelessness prevention, and services that reduce involvement in the criminal justice system and reduce emergency medical costs. Levy proceeds would also be used to fund capital facilities for these services.

Half of the levy proceeds would fund services for veterans and military personnel and their families. The other half would fund services for a wide range of citizens in need.

If Proposition 1 passes, two citizen oversight boards created in 2005, one for the veterans' portion, and one for the general human services portion, would continue to review the expenditure of levy proceeds. The two boards would make policy recommendations to the King County executive and the King County Council on levy expenditures.

Those in favor of KC Proposition No. 1 say:	Those against KC Proposition No. 1 say:
<p>RENEW THE KING COUNTY VETERANS AND HUMAN SERVICES LEVY The Veterans and Human Services Levy, approved overwhelmingly by voters in 2005, has improved the lives of over 82,000 veterans, their families, and others across King County.</p> <p>This is a RENEWAL of an existing levy, not a new tax or increase. Despite tremendous needs of veterans returning from service, the non-partisan citizen oversight boards recommended providing services efficiently and with accountability, holding the line on taxes. The average homeowner would invest only \$17 annually.</p>	<p>Supporters of the Levy say that this is “just a renewal of an existing levy.” The levy exists only because the County asked for it in 2005, and the voters approved it at that time as a one-time stop gap to provide required county funding to veterans, funding which the general fund did not cover due to the constraints of Initiative 747, passed by the voters.</p> <p>The county general fund did not cover the required veterans expenditures because the county failed to rein in its spending. This is the same story as other “specialized” levies that cover expenses that should be covered by the county’s general fund assessments.</p>
<p>Voting YES to renew the Veterans and Human Services Levy supports these essential services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪Employment training ▪Veterans treatment for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) ▪Housing with support services ▪Behavioral health services ▪Services for new mothers and infants 	<p>King County needs to change the way it does business before it looks to the people for more money.</p> <p>King County has raised taxes and fees six times in the last five years with no corresponding increase in services.</p> <p>But residents are getting fewer services from government itself.</p>
<p>The levy is supported by all nine members of the non-partisan King County Council, Executive Constantine, veterans, human service providers, housing and public health advocates, and leaders throughout King County.</p> <p>Vote YES to RENEW the Veterans and Human Services Levy—a small investment, with a huge impact for our veterans, our neighbors, and our communities.</p>	<p>King County should be sent a strong message: Do not continue to bring forth specialty levies for the services people are most passionate about or that support the most vulnerable. This is a ploy to tug at heartstrings and coerce voters into approving another tax increase. The county should control basic spending and budgeting across the board.</p>

Unit Leaders

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SEATTLE-KING COUNTY UNITS, 2011-2012

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

Unit	Unit Leader[s]	Email	Phone
Ballard/Queen Anne/ Magnolia	Kerry Peterson		
Bayview	Peg Williams	pwilliams@brc-res.com	
Bellevue	Bonnie Rimawi	bonnierim@aol.com	
Capitol Hill/Montlake	Vicky Downs Zita Cook	downsvdowns@aol.com zzitamcook@comcast.net	
Enumclaw	Cathy Dormaier	lcathy@foxinternet.com	
First Hill	Jeannette Kahlenberg	kahlenb@gmail.com	
Issaquah Day	Margaret Austin	Margaret.Austin@comcast.net	
Issaquah Eve	Ann Thornton Denise Smith	anninissaquah@gmail.com issaquahsmith@msn.com	
Mercer Island	Lucy Copass Cynthia Howe	lucyco@speakeasy.org howe.john@comcast.net	
King County South	Cindy Piennett	cindypiennett@gmail.com	
Kirkland/Redmond	Sheila Hoff	srhoff123@yahoo.com	
N. Central	Jan Orlando	orlanre@aol.com	
N. End Morning	Helen St. John	hbstjohn@gmail.com	
N. King County	Natalie Pascale Boisseau Samanthe Sheffer	npboisseau@gmail.com singingphoenix@yahoo.com	
Queen Anne/Magnolia/ Ballard Evening	Karen Adair	adairk@seanet.com	
Shoreline	Juliet Beard	juliet@windermere.com	
Southend	Marian Wolfe Susan Jones	hedgwolfe@aol.com susan@monckjones.com	
University House	Charles and Nancy Perkins	perkwz@msn.com	
View Ridge	Gail Winberg	winbergeng@q.com	
West Seattle	Ethel Williams	etheljw1@q.com	

Board & Committee Contacts

Term	Executive Committee			
2011–2013	<i>President</i>	Judy Bevington	(206) 329-4848	president@seattlelwv.org
2011–2013	<i>1st V.P. Voter Service</i>	Cyndi Woods	(206) 329-4848	cyndiwoods@comcast.net
2011–2012	<i>2nd V.P. Outreach</i>	Kelly Powers	(206) 329-4848	outreach.seattlelwv@gmail.com
2011–2013	<i>3rd V.P. Public Relations</i>	Jean Carlson	(206) 329-4848	jean.carlson@att.net
2011–2013	<i>4th V.P. Program</i>	Jeanette Johnson	(206) 329-4848	jeanettejohnson10@msn.com
2011–2013	<i>Treasurer</i>	Kati Ortiz	(206) 329-4848	treasurer@seattlelwv.org
2010–2012	<i>Secretary</i>	Joanna Cullen	(206) 329-4848	jfoxcullen@gmail.com
2011–2013	<i>Action</i>	Linda Brown	(206) 329-4848	brownlj@comcast.net

Term	Directors			
2011–2013	<i>To be determined</i>	Ellen Barton	(206) 329-4848	eeb0825@yahoo.com
2011–2012	<i>King County South</i>	Mary Ehlers	(206) 329-4848	maryehlers@comcast.net
2010–2012	<i>Voter Service</i>	Julie Anne Kempf	(206) 329-4848	julie@kempf.com
2011–2012	<i>Eastside</i>	Shari Carter Lundberg	(206) 329-4848	shari.c.lundberg@gmail.com
2011–2012	<i>King County South</i>	Pat McCann		
2011–2012	<i>Development</i>	Ginna Owens	(206) 329-4848	ginnao@earthlink.net
2010–2012	<i>Event Chair</i>	Kathy Sakahara	(206) 329-4848	kathysakahara@gmail.com
2011–2013	<i>Membership</i>	Dana Twight	(206) 329-4848	membership@lwv.org
2011–2013	<i>Transportation</i>	Janet Winans	(206) 329-4848	janetwinans@earthlink.net

Term	Education Fund Board			
2011–2013	<i>President</i>	Nancy Eitreim	(206) 329-4848	nancye@speakeasy.net
2011–2013	<i>Secretary</i>	Laraine Volkman	(206) 329-4848	laraine.volkman@att.net
2010–2012	<i>Director</i>	Ruth Schroeder	(206) 329-4848	schrdrcl@comcast.net
2010–2012	<i>Director</i>	Ellyn Swanson	(206) 329-4848	gusellyn@comcast.net

Term	Nominating Committee			
2011–2012		Karen Adair	(206) 329-4848	adairk@seanet.com
2011–2012		Astrid Berg	(206) 329-4848	
2011–2012		Jeanette Kahlenberg	(206) 329-4848	kahlenb@gmail.com
2011–2012		Boots Winterstein	(206) 329-4848	paulwinterstein@q.com

Off-Board Positions

<i>Unit Coordinator</i>	Linette Bixby	(206) 329-4848	linettebixby@gmail.com
<i>CIS Coordinator</i>	Cynthia Howe	(206) 329-4848	howe.john@comcast.net
<i>Voter Editor</i>	Nan Moore	(206) 329-4848	nanvoter@comcast.net

Committees

<i>Economics & Taxation</i>	Nora Leech	(206) 329-4848	LWVseattlenora@yahoo.com
<i>Education, incl. Teacher Study</i>	Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis	(206) 329-4848	terrylucy2u@comcast.net
<i>Immigration</i>	Barbara Reid	(206) 329-4848	barbereid@yahoo.com
	Barbara Yasui	(206) 329-4848	daruma52@msn.com
<i>International Relations</i>	Rebecca Castilleja		telbalto@yahoo.com
<i>Land Use</i>	Karen Kane	(206) 329-4848	kanek@iopener.net
<i>Privatization</i>	Nora Leech	(206) 329-4848	LWVseattlenora@yahoo.com
<i>Social Justice</i>	Kathleen Randall	(206) 329-4848	kathleenr8@gmail.com
<i>Transportation</i>	Janet Winans	(206) 329-4848	janetwinans@earthlink.net
<i>Vote by Mail Study</i>	Julie Anne Kempf	(206) 329-4848	julie@kempf.com

The League of Women Voters of Seattle
1620 18th Ave, Suite 101
Seattle WA 98122

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

LWV SEATTLE: AUGUST FORUM

Primary Election

Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave.
(the corner of Harvard and Seneca)
Seattle, WA

Thursday, August 4
6:30 p.m. - Social Hour
7:00 p.m. - Forum

All forums are open to the public.

- Including candidates for Positions I & 9, Seattle City Council as well as discussions of City of Seattle Referendum No. 1 and King County Proposition No. 1, Veterans and Human Services Levy.