Where is the Energy? Where is the Heat?
Program Planning for 2010-2011

by Nora Leech, LWVS Board Member

At our January forum our League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) experts, the action committee chairs, will report on their activities this past year and present their priorities for the coming one. The most active committees are Social Justice, Education, Civics Education, Immigration, Transportation, International Relations, and Economics and Taxation. Following their presentations, the committee chairs will participate in round table discussions with members, who will be encouraged to express their own priorities. The League is a grass roots organization and depends on its members to make things happen. You are a highly educated, savvy membership. This is your time to weigh in and influence the directions for the coming year.

This year LWVS studied the controversies surrounding privatization (transferring public assets and services to the private sector), we have a study on the Port of Seattle in progress, which we hope to present this spring, and we have a mental health study getting underway. Last year we studied the hot topic of immigration and quality of life issues surrounding wastewater management in our communities. What would you like to see this coming year?

We have also been asked to provide input for program planning at the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS). Most recently, LWVUS has studied immigration and the national popular vote. In the coming year, national topics will include the census and climate change. Hot topics on the national listserves for program planning include national standards for education, a look at civic education, how to fill senate vacancies and revising our position on arms control.

Summaries of our local positions and national positions are included in this Voter for additional ideas.

What do you think the hot topics will be for the League to pursue?

Give us your opinions.
Get involved in the action.

See you at the January Forum.

INSIDE

League Forming Triathlon Team.........................8
Interrelated Community Priorities.....................10
Help Wanted: Transportation Coordinator............13
The State We’re In: WA’s Proposed Budget.........14
On The February Ballot....................................15
January Program: Program Planning...............20
# Contents

President's Message ........................................... 3  
Calendar.................................................................. 4  
League Forums..................................................... 5  
December Board Briefs........................................ 5  
Committees......................................................... 6  
Announcements/League News  
  Great Decisions 2010.......................................... 7  
  Welcome to Cyndi Woods on CIS desk................. 8  
  TRY Release Party............................................ 8  
  Leaguers Forming Triathlon Team....................... 8  
  Who Pays For What? Transportation Update......... 9  
  Interrelated Community Priorities....................... 10  
Action and Advocacy  
  Action Workshop............................................. 12  
  LWV Lobby Day............................................... 12  
  Help Wanted................................................... 13  
  The State We're In........................................... 14  
Voter Service  
  What's on the February Ballot?......................... 15  
  Schools Capital Levy Ballot Analysis.................. 15  
  Schools Levies Ballot Analysis........................... 17  
Membership  
  Membership Report.......................................... 18  
Features  
  Book Review.................................................. 19  
January Program: Program Planning  
  Unit Instructions............................................. 22  
  Local Planning Worksheet................................. 23  
  National Planning Worksheet............................ 24  
  LWVS 2009 Positions in Brief........................... 25  
  National Public Policy Positions....................... 32  
  Unit Meetings................................................ 35  
Board and Committee Contacts........................... 37  

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President’s Message

I can’t believe it’s already January. A brand new year with a clean calendar in front of us! Nonetheless, that calendar already has a lot to put on it. This month the session in Olympia starts and we have Lobby Day on January 19. Next month TRY is coming out and we’re going to have a party on February 7 to celebrate. We’ll also be looking at the 2010 Census, which will occur in late March. In March, we’re going to have a forum on climate change and how the effects of it are particularly severe for women.

Although our League calendar really runs more June to June, January is our month for planning our agenda for the coming League year. You will hear some ideas at this month’s forum, read about some others in the Voter, and discuss them at unit meetings. There are some general guidelines that we use to decide on programs, and we’ve included them in this issue, but what it really boils down to is 1) does this foster the mission of the organization? and 2) are we excited about it?

There are a lot of things that might fit under criterion number one. Our goal is to foster informed and active participation in our democracy. We cover topics as wide-ranging as education, the environment and voting rights. That’s a lot of territory, so how do we focus and choose a particular topic or topics?

The key is number 2 – are we excited about it? The work of the League depends on you and your willingness to participate. Is the topic one you are interested in? Enough to read the study and participate in the unit meeting? Enough to be on a committee, do research and help write the study? Enough to develop a program, find speakers and organize a forum? If not, no matter how important the topic, then it really isn’t something we’re going to be able to do well. Another aspect of this is how does this relate to our community – would they be excited about it? It’s great for us to learn about things and be a resource for the community, but so is working with the community on issues of concern for them. I know those of you who were at our December forum heard some great ideas. Share them at this month’s forum and your unit meetings.

Participation in League should be educational, inspiring and fun – help us develop a program that makes it that for you.

Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

P.S. For info on how I’m keeping my New Year’s resolution about fitness, see page 8.

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.
# January

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League Forums

The League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) presents a public forum each month between September and May, generally on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Most of the forums are held at the Seattle First Baptist Church, although we schedule one on the eastside every year. The tentative schedule of upcoming forums for 2009–2010 appears to the left; check your Voter or the LWVS website, seattlelwv.org, each month for up-to-date information.

December Board Briefs

The Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) met on Saturday morning, December 5, 2009. This is a brief summary of their work.

Membership: This committee is focusing on unit and committee recruitment and strengthening existing units.

Units: Judy Bevington reported good participation in the State Budget discussions and recordings, even though the recordings were optional. In December, units hold a social event, invite local elected officials or cancel their meetings.

Program: The December Forum on legislative priorities in the community included speakers from the Capitol Hill Chamber of Commerce, El Centro de la Raza, Real Change Organizing Project, OneAmerica and the Seattle Council of Parent Teacher Student Associations. Kelly Powers held small-group discussions to elicit members’ recommendations of additional organizations we could get to know.

The January program will focus on program planning. At this forum, members share their ideas and suggestions for topics and hear from LWVS committees. Members will also find out what other leagues around the country are working on. Allison Feher, Nora Leech, and Maria Brusher are putting this forum together. Leech will present the process for forming a committee for those interested in working on a particular topic.

The February forum will educate members and the public about the federal census, using materials from the national League.

The March forum will be held in Seattle and is sponsored by the League’s International Relations committee. It is entitled ‘Sisters on the Planet’ and explores the impact of climate change on women around the world.

Action: The Board heard a pro-con debate on the Feb. 9, 2010 Seattle Schools Levies—Prop. 1, ‘BTA III’, a six-year capital levy which funds buildings, technology and academics, and Prop 2, a 3-year operations levy. Heidi Bennett, Legislative V.P. for Seattle Council of PTSAs, argued for the levies; Brita Butler-Wall took the con side when our guest speaker did not make the meeting. After a lively discussion, the Board voted to support both levies. The Board directed the president to express our concerns about the unsustainability of levy funding for education, and to urge the Seattle School District to improve transparency and effective, authentic public engagement. The Board voted to allocate $750 to support the Schools First! Levy campaigns.

Voter Service: Sarah Luthens is gathering information about the upcoming King County Library levy.

Publicity and Public Relations – Jean Carlson and Ginna Owens of the public relations committee brought a proposal to the Board for improving forum presentations. Members are encouraged to forward the League’s forum announcements to their personal email lists and local neighborhood papers and blogs, with the goal of reaching the public about our programs.

Strategic Planning: The Board will continue strategic planning and review board structure and other issues at the January board retreat, to be held on January 9, 2010, followed by the January business meeting.
Committees

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Monday, January 4  
**TIME:** 12:45–2:45 p.m.  
**PLACE:** LEAGUE OFFICE

Anyone interested in participating is welcome – we will be talking about the forum we are planning on the global effects of climate change on women, among other things. Everyone is invited to bring one article on an I-R topic which has recently caught your attention. For more information email Ellen Berg or Peggy Saari: ellenzberg@msn.com or peggyasaari@comcast.net.

**CIVICS EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 21  
**TIME:** 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** VIOS PUB AT THIRD PLACE BOOKS, 6504 20th N.E.

For more information, contact  Dana Twight: dctwight@uwashington.edu or (206) 329-4848.

**IMMIGRATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Wednesday, January 20  
**TIME:** 11:00 a.m.  
**PLACE:** NORTHWEST AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSEUM, 2300 S. MASSACHUSETTS ST.  
**ADMISSION:** $6.00

Meet at the entrance to the museum at 11:00 A.M to view the exhibit on Seattle’s Ethiopian Community, followed by lunch and discussion at the museum’s cafe.

The Immigration Committee has drawn up a list of seven books, exhibits, and films focusing on the immigrant experience in the U.S. Please join us for all, or some, of these interesting experiences and/or discussions on the third Wednesday of the month. Specific information will be given for the month’s event at the beginning of the month in the Voter. All are invited, League members and non-members. For information, please call Barbara Reid, (206) 329-4848.

**ECONOMICS AND TAXATION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Saturday, January 30  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**PLACE:** 909 E. NEWTON ST., D-9

For more information, call Nora Leech at (206) 329-4848.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

Date/Time: To Be Announced (check www.seattlelwv.org)

The Outreach Committee is pleased to announce that Susan Gleason from *Yes! Magazine* will be providing a short training session on how to better utilize Facebook, Twitter, and other media to get the word out about the great work of the League of Women Voters of Seattle! In addition, the committee will have a brainstorming session to identify outreach opportunities for the upcoming March Forum—Sisters on the Planet.

All members and potential new members welcome to participate.

Contact Maria Brusher with questions or concerns at outreach@seattlelwv@gmail.com or (206) 329-4848.
Announcements

GREAT DECISIONS 2010
The League of Women Voters of Seattle’s Great Decisions Discussion Groups will be starting in February. If you are interested in joining a group, you may choose among three locations — Issaquah, Mercer Island and Seattle. The Seattle group will meet on alternate Tuesday evenings between February 9 and May 18; contact leader listed below for more information about times and locations of meetings. For general information, please call Carol Goldenberg at (206) 329-4848.

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<tr>
<td>Issaquah</td>
<td>Denise Smith</td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td><a href="mailto:groundwatersmith@msn.com">groundwatersmith@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercer Island</td>
<td>Susie Anschell</td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sanschell@hotmail.com">sanschell@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>Vicky Downs</td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td><a href="mailto:downsvdowns@aol.com">downsvdowns@aol.com</a></td>
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The Foreign Policy Association (FPA) publishes a discussion guide to the eight issues in foreign policy which will be this year’s topics. To order a book, call FPA at (800) 477-5836 or email www.greatdecisions.org. Books will be mailed after January 1, 2010 and will cost $18.00 plus tax and handling.

2010 Topics

Special Envoys
Special envoys can help bring attention and diplomatic muscle to resolve conflicts and global challenges, but they also bring with them their own “special” problems. Will the Obama administration’s reliance on special envoys increase the ability of the U.S. to deal with major international issues or complicate our diplomatic options?

Kenya and R2P
Post-election rioting in Kenya in December 2007 brought pressure on Nairobi, from international and regional diplomats, to end tensions and avert bloodshed on a massive scale. What lessons can be learned from the intervention in Kenya? What does it mean for the UN’s emerging “responsibility to protect” doctrine?

Global Crime
From the booming sex trade in Eastern Europe to online fraud syndicates in Africa and drug cartels of Asia and Central America, crime is becoming increasingly organized and globalized. How can countries better protect citizens seeking the benefits of a globalized world from being exploited? What international actors can effectively fight global organized crime?

U.S. - China Security Relations
China’s influence is growing, along with its military expenditures. How will this growth affect China’s relations with its neighbors and with the U.S.? Will China’s expanding military and economic power affect traditional U.S. roles and U.S. alliances in East Asia? How will countries like Japan, South Korea and India respond?

Global Financial Crisis
The global financial crisis that began in late 2007 revealed major deficiencies in the regulation of markets and institutions—all of which came perilously close to collapse. Emergency measures to prevent a full collapse of the global financial system have led to mixed results. How will governments and the world community respond to this challenge?

Russia and its Neighbors
Russia’s policy of maintaining a “sphere of influence” in former Soviet satellites has been challenged in recent years by movements against pro-Russia regimes. Russia has pushed back by cutting Ukraine’s natural gas supply and intervening in Georgia’s campaign in South Ossetia. Will Russia regain its traditional leadership role in the region?

The Persian Gulf
Now more than ever, the Persian Gulf region offers many difficult challenges to U.S. policy makers. How will President Obama’s direct appeal to Arabs and Muslims impact U.S. foreign policy in the region? What will the fallout of withdrawal of U.S. forces from Iraq be? Can the U.S. and its allies prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons?

Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution
U.S. campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan have shown that military force alone cannot ensure peace in all conflicts. How can the U.S. successfully integrate tools of peacebuilding into its statecraft? At what point do poverty, disease and climate change threaten national security? What role can non-governmental actors play in supporting government efforts?
LEAGUERS FORMING DANSKIN TRIATHLON TEAM

Kelly Powers, your membership chair, and Allison Feher, your fearless leader, are signing up to participate this August in the largest triathlon in the country. We’d love to have you join us as hundreds of women cheer each other to finish a half mile swim, 12 mile bike ride and 3.1 mile walk/run. Unlike most events, the emphasis is on improving fitness and the more significant accomplishment of finishing, rather than the time it takes to finish. If you think “there’s no way I could do a triathlon,” you’re wrong. Women of all ages and levels of fitness participate. In 2003 my mother and I did it together; it was an amazing and exhilarating experience.

The race will be held in Seattle on August 15, 2010 in and around Genesee Park on Lake Washington.

The official WeRox training starts April 1, although some of us are starting now!

For more information you can visit the website http://danskinwomenstri.com/Seattle-WA.html; however, registration will not begin until February or March. Fees are $90 for individuals and $150 for relay teams. If you even think you might be interested, contact the office and we’ll have an informational meeting to talk more about how much fun you can have doing this.

Yes we can!

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.
The Transportation Committee met November 17 at the offices of the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) to listen to two officials. Charlie Howard discussed the issue of “Who Pays for What?” Matt Kitchens discussed the methods and models the PSRC uses to build transportation need forecasts and to forecast the financial resources available and needed to provide the necessary funding.

The PSRC is made up of representatives from the four county regions bordering Puget Sound: Snohomish, King, Pierce, and Kitsap. The Council is responsible for regional transportation, growth management and economic development planning. It disburses millions of dollars of federal and state funds for transportation. The League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA) and many other groups have a non-voting seat for both the transportation and growth management boards. Luella Wells is our representative.

“Who pays” for transportation has a very easy answer: We all do. The more important questions are: How are we charged, what do we buy and what about the future?

Legislatures decide how and how much we will be charged and, in some but not all cases, what particular money can pay for. The Washington State Constitution, Amendment 18, limits the use of all gasoline tax money collected in the state to “highways.”

The PSRC, cities, counties, transit districts and other agencies distribute available revenues, as well as implement particular projects. One of the PSRC’s most exacting responsibilities is to attempt to predict and plan for the future.

There is a long list of taxing entities and sources of revenue, from cities and counties and transit agencies to the Federal Government, and an equally long list of the kinds of things that are taxed or otherwise charged to obtain the necessary revenue: development and impact fees, weight fees, license fees for vehicles, sales tax and the gasoline tax. At this point, two percent of personal income is spent on publicly financed transportation. This does not include personal expenses such as actually owning a car.

The gasoline tax began with the development of the automobile, and the resultant need for highways. Both automobile manufacturers and the petroleum industries lobbied for it. It is collected at the point of wholesale distribution and is levied on the volume of gasoline sold, not the price. The sales tax is the second most important source of funding for transportation.

We are coming to a crisis time for our dependence on both of these taxes. They are very volatile. Always volume has decreased during downturns in the economy and so has discretionary spending. The motor vehicle tax that was eliminated by voter initiative hedged the volatility of the gas tax, because car licenses are renewed regardless of the economy. The loss of that revenue has had serious consequences for ferries, mass transit and other elements throughout the system.

The demands to reduce consumption and carbon emissions that are so important today will result in less consumption, but even without reduced consumption, the gasoline tax is completely vulnerable to inflation. It is levied as a percent of the volume of gasoline sold and the percentage levied is very politically limited. The value of the money collected decreases as the cost of all the commodities and services bought with that money continues to rise over time and with inflation.

TRANSPORTATION 2040 is the current model that the PSRC is using for planning necessary changes in transportation in the state and for evaluating the financial resources available under current law. Their data shows that only two of those taxes, sales tax and property tax on motor vehicles, will increase over the 30 years until 2040. Therefore the council is developing new ideas to obtain the money necessary, new “user fees” to cause all of us to fund the services we use.

We are in a time of learning about, getting used to and accepting the idea of tolling: “Learn from SR 167 HOT lanes, SR 520 use of early and variable rate tolling. . . allow time to build upon the public acceptance such as that associated with the Tacoma Narrows and SR 167 HOT lanes.” [PSRC: Transportation Finance, League of Women Voters, November 17, 2009].
League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) roundtable discussions uncovered a common thread among the five community organizations whose representatives outlined their 2010 legislative priorities at the December 3 LWVS forum. It was a plea for social and economic justice, a sense of fairness that they seek to achieve in partnership with our elected representatives.

The needs of these groups are interrelated. Adequate funding for public education sought by the Seattle Parent, Teacher and Student Associations would help El Centro de la Raza’s mission for the Latino community and Real Change’s action to end homelessness and poverty. A path to citizenship sought by OneAmerica plus the development of small local businesses promoted by the Central Area Chamber of Commerce could help economic growth which would then contribute to all the others.

These conversations will help inform the League’s decisions about its own 2010 legislative priorities.

**Estela Ortega, Executive Director, El Centro de la Raza**

Priorities:

- Basic Health Care Plan — more people will be going to the emergency room if this is cut.
- Taxes — More funds are needed to provide necessary services. Washington’s regressive tax system cannot cope.
- Housing Trust Fund.
- At the national level, support of the Dream Act, which would enable undocumented children to go to college.

**DeCharlene Williams, President, Central Area Chamber of Commerce**

Priorities:

- Supporting local businesses
- Advancing education and supporting local schools
- Job creation
- Senior services
- Monitoring city finances (city council salaries, bonuses, City Light spending). More money should go to social services.
Anitra Freeman, Real Change
Priorities:
➢ We must work for social justice for all, not just the homeless. Homeless people are the “canaries in the coal mine,” whose presence is a sign of broader problems in society.
➢ The tendency toward the criminalization of poverty has become a greater problem since the economic meltdown.
➢ The local government needs to work with the homeless community, which is well-organized. It should be concentrating more on keeping the homeless alive today than on housing projects for the future.

Heidi Bennett, Vice President of Legislative Affairs, Seattle Council of PTSA
Priorities:
➢ Basic education funding
➢ Strengthening math and science curriculum
➢ Improving state assessment system (WASL)
➢ Improving high school graduation requirements (Core 24)
➢ Advancing rational approaches to teacher compensation and the certification process

Pramila Jayapal, OneAmerica
High Priority: Fund Citizenship Assistance
Citizenship is crucial to integrating immigrants into society. OneAmerica and the state have developed a partnership, the Washington New Americans Program, to provide citizenship services. However, the state reduced its funding for the program last year; a high priority for OneAmerica is to have the funding restored. This would also help with other funding sources — matching grants, federal money.
Action and Advocacy

ACTION WORKSHOP
BY JUDY BEVINGTON, BOARD MEMBER

The 2009 League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA) Action Workshop for Western Washington was held in Bellevue, Washington on November 21. Senator Rodney Tom, Senator Eric Oemig and Representative Ruth Kagi were the featured guest speakers, followed by LWVWA’s own lobbyist, Lonnie Johns Brown, and a panel of the LWVWA lobby team.

The main theme of the day was the severity of the budget crisis and its impacts on basic programs, particularly social service programs. It was mentioned that 48 states are having similar problems, no matter what their funding sources. Many suggested taxes are just not up to the job. Cutting out subsidies that may have been desirable as incentives at some point, but now are more like loopholes, is one possible source of funding. Another is a tax on items such as soda pop.

Nevertheless, Oemig was hopeful for action to restrict campaign funding of judicial races so that the process is more democratic and there is more local control. Rep. Kagi talked about the importance of funding learning programs for young children, which have been shown by research to be highly effective.

Three of League’s priorities for the upcoming short session are in conjunction with those of the Environmental Priorities Coalition. They are: investing in clean water, safe baby bottles and resisting the declines in funding natural resources and environmental issues. There is also concern about proposed modifications to Washington Initiative 937, which was passed by the voters in 2006 to require renewable sources of electricity supply. Other issues include reproductive rights and low-income housing.

Leaguers were encouraged to contact their legislators (see They Represent You for contact numbers) and the Governor to support additional funding and oppose cuts in the priority areas for the League.

LWVWA LOBBY DAY
Date: Tuesday, January 19
Time: 9:00 a.m. (registration at 8:30 a.m.)
Place: Columbia Room, State Capitol, Olympia
Cost: $25 per person. Lunch is provided.

You may use the form below to register, or call the state office at (206) 622-8961.
Lobby Day gives League members the opportunity to learn more about legislative issues, hear speakers, and talk with legislators and staff members. If you plan to attend, you may also want to make appointments to talk with your own legislators in the afternoon, after the formal program is over.

League of Women Voters of Washington
LOBBY DAY
January 19, 2010
REGISTRATION
Cost: $25 per person
Lunch Provided
Columbia Room, State Capitol, Olympia

Name______________________________________________________________
Tel/email_____________________________________________________________________

☐ VISA ☐ M/C _____________________________________________________________exp. date___________

☐ Check enclosed, payable to LWVWA

Mail to: LWVWA, 4730 University Way N.E., Suite #720, Seattle, WA 98105
League of Women Voters of Washington
HELP WANTED

League-Powered Afternoon Phone Banking for Seattle Public Schools Levies

Date: Saturday, January 23
Time: 2:00–5:00 p.m.
Place: Schools First! Campaign Headquarters
524 Dexter Avenue, between Mercer and Republican
(206) 224-3563

Calling Seattle Leaguers! We’ll be calling to remind infrequent voters, neighbors and parents to vote and mail in their ballots for the February 9 special election. Scripts and training provided. If you have cell minutes to spare, bring your cell phone. Let’s make an afternoon of it and get it done for the public schools.

Baked goods appreciated!

Please RSVP to the CIS Desk so we can make sure that we have enough phones: (206) 329-4848.

Work with UW Students on Civic Engagement

Dates: Every Monday leading up to the February 9 election
Time: 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Place: Schools First! Campaign Headquarters
524 Dexter Avenue, between Mercer and Republican
(206) 224-3563

Looking for away to teach young people how to get engaged? Holly Barker, Lecturer at the University of Washington, is teaching a class on educational policy issues. 35 of her students will focus on the Schools First Seattle Levy campaign. Holly is looking for volunteers to help the college students with campaign tasks such as: writing letters, making phone calls, social networking on Facebook, stuffing envelopes, leafleting, contacting PTSAs—whatever needs to be done.

This is a great opportunity for the League to create a relationship with students at UW! Check out this twittering, Facebook generation of budding activists and future Leaguers.

Contact: Holly Barker at holly@barkershermanfamily.com or Kelly Powers at membership.seattlelwv@gmail.com, (206) 329-4848 (office).

Interested in helping green the League while helping increase League participation?

We’d like to provide rides and carpool opportunities to members to Forums and other special events such as the upcoming Lobby Day in Olympia. We are looking for a volunteer Transportation Coordinator who enjoys creating efficient systems and solving logistical puzzles. The Transportation Coordinator will start by devising an easy-to-use system for matching riders with drivers hopefully for Lobby Day January 19th, but we’re flexible. The Transportation Coordinator would then fine-tune the system and roll it out to the general membership. It might mean training other volunteers and overseeing it throughout the year. Please contact Lindsay Cummings or Kelly Powers at the office, (206) 329-4848.

Sign Up for the Legislative Newsletter!

If you’re interested in keeping up with all the happenings in Olympia over the upcoming legislative session, sign up for the state League’s Legislative Newsletter! You will receive information about League support or opposition to bills, pertinent committee hearings, status of bills and Action Alerts. This service is available through the mail (for a fee of $15), or free via email. Contact the state League office at lwvwa@lwvwa.org or (206) 622-8961. Checks payable to LWVWA can be mailed to LWVWA, 4730 University Way NE Ste. 720, Seattle, WA, 98105.
THE STATE WE’RE IN
By Nora Leech, Board Member

I am on the League of Women Voters State Lobby Team for the current legislative session. My portfolio focuses on issues related to taxation and revenue. The State Department of Finance recently announced an additional $2.6 billion dollars in projected revenue losses that must be cut to balance the budget. This is following the drastic cuts—over $9 billion—made by the legislature last year to cover revenue shortfalls over the next three years. It will be another depressing session, as legislators and the governor target more cuts in critical programs that serve the poor.

Examples of impacts from the $9b reductions authorized last year include

1. K-12 Funding: Initiative 728, passed in 2000, authorized $458 per pupil to lower class size. These allocations were reduced from $458 per student in 2009 to $99 per student in 2011 due to revenue losses from the current economic downturn.

2. Higher Education: The higher education budget was reduced by 13%, accompanied by authorization to increase student tuition up to 14% at the 4-year institutions and 7% at the community and technical colleges.

3. Basic Health Plan: This program provides health coverage to low-income people unable to secure health insurance due to severe health problems. The cuts eliminated coverage for approximately 36,000 enrollees.

More Cuts

Now the legislature must find an additional 2.6 billion to cut. The portion of the budget subject to reductions is $7.7 billion. All the rest is off limits due to legal and other restrictions. The functional areas subject to cuts are primarily

• corrections,
• medical assistance,
• higher education and financial aid,
• K-12 non-basic education, and
• other Human Services, such as mental health, basic health plan, long term care, disabilities.

So we must subtract $2.6 billion from the above functional areas with budgets totaling $7.7 billion.

Governor’s First Proposal

The governor is required by state law to present a balanced budget without raising taxes. She released her preliminary budget plan on Wednesday, Dec 9, saying that she does not support it. She feels tax increases will be needed to avoid such severe cuts to critical programs.

Program cuts proposed by the governor to balance the budget include:

• Eliminate the Basic Health Plan, an insurance program that covers uninsurable low income people with extreme health problems. About 65,000 are enrolled in this program.
• Eliminate the General Assistance to the Unemployable (GAU). This is a safety net for more than 20,000 people with physical and mental conditions.
• Suspend funding for school levy equalization, which aids “property poor” school districts.
• Suspend state-subsidized all day kindergarten.
• Cut $146,000,000 in financial aid for college students.
• Close several schools for developmentally disabled.
• Close corrections centers and consolidate beds.

At her budget presentation, the governor floated some ideas to raise revenue to avoid the cuts.

1. Expand sales tax to financial institutions.
2. Tax previously exempted items such as custom software, candy, gum, bakery products, soft drinks, bottled water.
3. Increase the state sales tax rate.

But what about other taxes, eliminating current tax exemptions, reducing administrative costs?

What do you think? Give me your ideas for new revenue sources and budget cuts that fit with our current League positions on taxation. (For your ideas to be considered, please attach an existing state position to each of your proposals. You can find the League positions, “Program in Action,” on the State League website, www.lwvwa.org).
WHAT’S ON THE FEBRUARY BALLOT?

Many King County voters will have an opportunity to cast a ballot on a levy modification to support operational expenses for King County libraries. Voters throughout King County, with the exception of voters in Seattle, Renton, Enumclaw, Hunt’s Point, and Yarrow Point, will be eligible to vote on this measure. For more information, go to http://www.kcls.org//prop1/.

In addition to Seattle, the following additional districts will have school levies on the ballot: Mercer Island, Tukwila, Riverview, Snoqualmie Valley, Issaquah, Shoreline, Lake Washington and Northshore.

The filing deadline for the ballot is December 23, 2009. This information is current as of December 16, 2009.

SCHOOLS CAPITAL LEVY BALLOT ANALYSIS

BY BRITA BUTLER-WALL
READERS: KELLY POWERS, LUCY GASKILL-GADDIS, AND ALLISON FEHER

Seattle School District No. 1, Proposition No. 1, Capital Levy

Ballot Measure Summary
This six-year capital projects school levy funds construction, replacement, renovation, and modernization of educational facilities throughout the Seattle school district. It funds hundreds of projects relating to safety, health, and maintenance improvements and academic and technology updates to Seattle schools and grounds. It includes classroom upgrades such as Early Learning and Science classrooms, Special Education therapy spaces, computer labs, textbooks, and athletic field replacement.

Background
On February 9, 2010 Seattle voters will vote in a special election on a six-year Buildings, Technology, and Academics (BTA) levy. Passage requires a simple majority (50% plus one vote). If adopted, the BTA III Levy will be collected from 2010 to 2016.

The specific projects to be funded by the BTA levy support the District’s strategic plan and the new student assignment plan, returning students to neighborhood schools. The BTA levy was developed with community input solicited between October 2008 and September 2009.

Fiscal Impact
The BTA Levy would raise a total of $270 million dollars. A tax would be levied per $1,000 of assessed value at the following approximate rates:

- $0.35 for 2010
- $0.33 for 2011
- $0.32 for 2012
- $0.30 for 2013
- $0.29 for 2014
- $0.27 in 2015

These rates would result in $45 million each year for the BTAIII projects. Of this, approximately 42% would go toward buildings, 13% toward technology, 35% toward academics, and 10% toward inflation in construction costs.

Schools and districts do not receive more local funding as property values increase or less money if property values decrease. Levies are based on a fixed dollar amount, not a percentage of assessed property values. When voters approve a levy, they authorize a school district to collect a fixed dollar amount. So as property values increase, the local tax rates for schools decrease.

Qualifying senior citizens and disabled persons may be exempt.

What Would the Effect of the Levy be if Approved?
The BTA III levy would fund building reinvestments, including roof replacements, mechanical systems and interior and exterior renovations, and modifications to ensure life safety and ADA compliance; acquisition of technology and technical infrastructure, including internet wiring and administrative systems; the construction and remodeling of academic facilities such as those for special education, high school science and Cleveland High School’s new Science, Technology, Engineering and Math program; athletic fields; and other needs.

What Would the Effect be if the Levy were Rejected?
In addition to new projects being delayed, the backlog
of maintenance issues would continue to grow and we wouldn’t be able to address some safety issues such as lead in water from old pipes in the schools. If the BTA III Capital Construction Levy failed, the district would not have funding for many of its strategic initiatives, including reduction of the backlog of maintenance and repair; would not be able to continue to invest in technology and efficiencies or in academic initiatives such as Cleveland STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math); would not be able to support the new student assignment plan with matching capacity where students reside; and would not be able to support recommendations for early learning or special education.

**Those in Favor Say:**

Last session, the legislature cut a billion and a half dollars from K-12 education. The state legislature must contend with an additional $2.6 billion budget shortfall during the upcoming session. Funding is critical at this time and to lose these dollars would have an extremely negative effect on our schools and our children.

This is a renewal of an expiring levy, not new taxes. Seattle has the lowest total tax rate among King County school districts, for which the average tax rate is $3.30 per $1000 assessed value. The BTA is the workhorse levy affecting every school. This levy provides life/safety improvements, classroom upgrades to our schools, athletic field replacement, and improvements to technology for every classroom. It will pay for hundreds of projects across the district for the years 2011–2016. Passing these levies ensures that the school board and superintendent will continue with business as usual. The district has a poor track record for showing the public where the BTA money actually goes, once a capital levy is passed. There is a lack of oversight in spending for the capital levies and confusion in priorities, exemplified by such practices as promoting costly ‘green’ buildings yet cutting down the trees at Ingraham High School, and spending money to both close and open the same school within a couple of years.

These are tight times and this list of projects goes well beyond the must-haves. Passing these levies will not solve the major problem, which is that the district underfunds basic maintenance until expensive fixes are required. Instead of redoing individual schools, the district should budget for basic maintenance.

The proportion of BTA spending on buildings is slowly decreasing. The first BTA was at about 65% for buildings, the second was 53% and this one is down to 51%. The design of this levy ensures that our buildings will continue to deteriorate.

**Organized Support for Prop 1 – Capital Levy**
Seattle Council of PTSA, Seattle Education Association, Schools First!, Seattle School Board, and individual Parent Teacher Organizations at Seattle Public Schools.

**Organized Opposition to Prop 1 – Capital Levy**
None identified. Arguments gathered from individuals.

![2009 Total Levy Rates Per $1,000 assessed value](image)

**King County Levy Rate per Thousand**

**Those Against Say:**

Washington state ranks 45th in the nation in per pupil spending. Levies are not the way to fund public education, which is the paramount duty of the state of Washington, according to our state constitution. Passing these levies lets our legislature off the hook once more.

The Seattle School District has not been sufficiently transparent with its operations levy—the taxpayer cannot know if the moneys are spent as promised. These levies do not hold the district accountable, or responsive to the parents and general public.
SCHOOLS LEVIES BALLOT ANALYSIS
BY BRITA BUTLER-WALL,
SECRETARY OF LWVS
READERS: KELLY POWERS, LUCY GASKILL-GADDIS, AND ALLISON FEHER

Seattle School District No. 1, Proposition No. 2, Operations Levy

Background
The Seattle school operations levy funds about 24% of the operating budget for the Seattle Public Schools, which includes instructional programs, student activities, staff salaries, specialist services, technology infrastructure, student transportation, security, maintenance and other general operating expenses.

On February 9, 2010 Seattle voters will vote in a special election on a three-year operations school levy. Passage requires a simple majority (50% plus one vote). This is a renewal levy.

Fiscal Impact
The proposed operations levy would provide a total revenue of $442.7 million in voter-approved tax levy collections, and would require taxpayers to provide funding at approximately $1.08 per $1,000 of assessed value (operations levy only). This would provide $139.5 million in 2010, $145.1 million in 2011, and $158.1 million in 2012.

The 2009 current total tax rate for Seattle schools is $1.72 per $1000 assessed value. If the new levies are approved, Seattle’s rates in 2011 – 2013 will still be less than the rates in 2005 – 2007.

Schools and districts do not receive more local funding as property values increase or less money if property values decrease. Levies are based on a fixed dollar amount, not a percentage of assessed property values. When voters approve a levy, they authorize a school district to collect a fixed dollar amount. So as property values increase, the local tax rates for schools decrease. Qualifying senior citizens and disabled persons may be exempt.

Those in Favor Say:
State and federal funding does not cover the basic, high quality education that our children deserve. Our children cannot afford to lose 24% of the Seattle Public Schools operating budget. Washington state ranks 45th in the nation in per pupil spending for public schools.

If the levy is rejected, the district will be forced to lay off teachers and reduce programs and transportation services. The levy pays for 24% of the budget, so it must cut core functions. Your yes votes mean funding for educational basics, not extras.

This is a renewal of an expiring levy, not new taxes. Seattle has the lowest total tax rate among King County school districts, which average $3.30. The renewal of the operations levy funds critical instructional areas, including teachers’ salaries. Currently the 6th period in middle and high school is not provided by state funding, even though students need to carry a full schedule to apply to four-year post-high school institutions. The levy funding also supports foreign language education, which is not provided by state funds. The levy funds textbooks and classroom supplies and supports student activities such as sports, music, and drama. It provides for counselors and librarians, bilingual and special education services. It also covers basic logistics, including student transportation, utilities, and custodial support, as well as technology and security support.

Every dollar of this levy pays for programs and services that support student learning and academic achievement.

Those Against Say:
Levies are not the way to fund public education, which is the paramount duty of the state of Washington, according to our state constitution. Passing these levies lets our legislature off the hook once more.

The Seattle School District has not been sufficiently transparent with its operations levy—the taxpayer cannot know if the moneys are spent as promised. These levies do not hold the district accountable, or responsive to the parents and general public. Passing these levies ensures that the school board and superintendent will continue with business as usual.

There is waste throughout the bureaucracy of Seattle Public Schools that should be eliminated before providing further tax dollars.

These are tight times and taxpayers cannot afford frills such as fancy computers and new programs such as the proposed STEM program at Cleveland High School, when the budget doesn’t cover the basics.

Organized Support for Prop 2—Operations Levy
Seattle Council of PTSA, Seattle Education Association, Schools First! Seattle School Board, individual Parent Teacher Student Associations in the Seattle Public Schools

Organized Opposition to Prop 2—Operations Levy
None identified. Arguments gathered from individual parents and community members.
Happy New Year! January is an exciting month at the League. This month’s forum and unit meetings are the time when we gather to reflect on League positions and what’s happening in King County and local municipalities, and to determine League studies (which lead to League positions) we’d like to see for the upcoming year. This is a great time for members to weigh in on League priorities and consider how they’d like to participate.

The League can only endorse or take action on issues on which it has relevant positions. Recently, when Initiative 1029 requiring training for home-health care aides was on the state ballot, it became apparent that the League does not have positions relating to senior care, so it couldn’t endorse or call for action.

At the January unit meetings, members will come to consensus on their top three issues to study or revise for local and national programming. The Board will compile the results from the units and select recommended studies, to be presented to the full membership in May at the Annual Meeting.

I encourage you to attend the January 7 forum and a unit meeting – see the schedule at the back of the Voter. Attend the meetings and speak your mind!

Lobby Day
Lobby Day is another opportunity to get involved – especially for the action-minded Leaguer. I hope you’ll join me in Olympia for Lobby Day for presentations from legislators, including committee chairs, about the upcoming session. Attendees may also visit their own representatives with talking points. A boxed lunch will be provided.

THANKS FROM MEMBERSHIP
A big thank you to Janet Perry for welcoming attendees at the monthly forums. It’s been so helpful to have a reliable “go-to” person making this happen for every forum. She has now stepped down and arranged for the First Hill/Horizon House Unit members to carry on in her stead. Nancy Cope and Dorothy Hopper staffed the table for the December forum. Thank you! It’s very much appreciated.

Jeanette Kahlenberg, Laraine Volkman, Candis Litsey, Cyndi Woods and Cynthia Howe made calls to invite members to the Social Justice Committee and the TRY fundraiser mailing party. It worked! Thanks so much.

New member Fran Trowbridge did an admirable job summarizing the state budget report for the University House November unit meeting. New to Washington State and a new Seattle Leaguer – she jumped right in!

Many thanks to Victoria Bennett for an incredibly helpful afternoon of Membership issue catch up.

OUR MEMBERS
Kitty Mahon’s granddaughter has arrived! We don’t have a lot of details, as Kitty’s in Palm Springs for the winter, but we’re delighted to think of Kitty and Michael enjoying the warm sun and their first grandchild.

In Memoriam….
In memoriam and with gratitude for their contributions and commitment to the League and the community at large

Sally Prior, also a resident of Horizon House, died November 4. She joined a League chapter in Circle Pines, Minnesota in the 1950s, and remained a member as she had time since then. She also lived in Bellevue, WA before moving to the Horizon House.
BOOK REVIEW by Vicky Downs

Half The Sky: Turning Oppression Into Opportunity For Women Worldwide  By Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn

As the subtitle suggests, the authors do not flinch from describing terrible oppression, such as bride burning for an inadequate dowry in India, kidnapping girls in China and Cambodia to be trafficked into brothels, or genital cutting in Africa. However, they also provide example after example of women who have snatched an unforeseen opportunity to gain an education, borrow money to start a small business, or learn a useful trade. Unlike men, when women rise, they tend to raise their families as well. The Chinese saying states, “women hold up half the sky,” and the authors show how women sometimes indeed seem capable of Herculean tasks.

When Kristof and WuDunn met Dai Manju, she was a “short, thin girl with stringy hair and a timid air.” Though the star pupil in her school, she had to leave when her parents became ill, as she could no longer afford textbooks or even pencil and paper. She yearned to continue her studies, and benefited from Kristof’s article about her in the New York Times. This resulted in a gift of money, which provided Dai Manju with tuition-free schooling through junior and senior high school and then on to accounting school. She found work as an accountant, and a year or so later “found jobs for friends and family members.” She sent “growing sums of money home to her family, so that her parents became among the richest in the village.” Eventually, she married a skilled worker and had a baby girl just after she turned thirty.

Sometimes it doesn’t take much money to make a huge difference. I hadn’t known that fetuses need iodine in the first trimester, in order to develop proper brains. Studies show that this “is particularly true of female fetuses”: both animal and human. In Tanzania, a Harvard researcher found that when pregnant women received a fifty cent capsule of iodized oil, their daughters “performed markedly better in school.” Just ensuring that countries have inexpensive iodized salt could help all their fetuses grow into healthy students!

Entire countries have benefited from helping women. When Pakistan separated from East Pakistan, now called Bangladesh, in 1971, then Secretary of State Kissinger spoke relatively approvingly of Pakistan, but referred to Bangladesh as “a basket case.” Thanks to people like Mohammed Yunus, whose Grameen Bank started micro lending to Bangladeshi village housewives, women are no longer afraid to work outside the home, and their daughters routinely go to school. The result is that the country “today has a significant civil society and a huge garment industry…” The authors state that Bangladesh is now “incomparably more stable than Pakistan.”

To me, it seemed incredible that such a change might happen quickly. I learned that it can. Having seen the movie Hotel Rwanda, with its ghastly pictures of genocide, I was surprised to learn that today Rwanda is one of the fastest growing economies in Africa. How could this be? Though an “impoverished, landlocked, patriarchal society that still lives in the shadow of the 1994 genocide in which 800,000 people were slaughtered,” it became a country in which “women now play an important economic, political and social role in a way that hugely benefits Rwanda as a whole.” After genocide, 70% of the population was female, so the country had to “utilize women.” In addition, the “men had discredited themselves,” so “females were perceived to be more responsible and less inclined to savagery.” Women rose to the occasion, and in 2008, “Rwanda became the first country with a majority of female legislators (55%) in the lower house [of parliament].” With regard to the economy and trade, Kristof and WuDunn call Rwanda “the China of Africa.”

This is a fascinating and generally uplifting book. A final chapter is titled “What you can do” (to help women), and two pages list “Four Steps You Can Take in the Next Ten Minutes.” I found myself enthralled just by step number one!

The opinions in this review are personal and do not represent those of the LWV.
2010 - 2011
Local and National Program Planning
January 2010

Principles

The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.

The League of Women Voters believes that good democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens.

The League of Women Voters believes that the right to vote must be protected for every citizen; that every person should have access to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic, or administrative discrimination.

The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing, and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.

The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems which affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies which facilitate the solution of international problems.

The League of Women voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems and that the development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of peace.
January Program: Program Planning

PROGRAM PLANNING AT THE UNIT MEETINGS:

Now is the time for League members to make a critical examination of our League Positions in light of our current political environment and upcoming issues impacting the quality of life in our communities. This year we are examining the national League of Women Voters positions and the Seattle League’s local positions. Allow discussion time to be evenly divided between the two. Note that your planning material includes two forms to be completed, one for National and one for the local League.

At your unit, we are asking you to consider the following questions in reference to our official League positions. Do we need a new position requiring a study, do we need to adjust a position, do we need to sunset a position because it is no longer relevant? We are also asking for suggestions for new studies.

Unit results at the local level will be tabulated and presented at the annual meeting in May, at which all the adjusting of positions and suggestions for new studies take place. National recommendations will be forwarded and decided at Convention in June.

So come ready to listen and speak. Your voice is important to keep a healthy membership-based organization.
UNIT INSTRUCTIONS FOR PROGRAM PLANNING

1. Review the Criteria for the selection of local study items:
   a. The issue must fall within the principles of the LWV.
   b. It must be one on which governmental action is needed.
   c. It must be within the province of local government.
   d. It must be one to which the League can make a significant contribution.
   e. It must be timely.
   f. Options must exist for citizen action.

2. Discuss possible new Local Studies
   This is a consensus decision with agreement on major principles and the absence of major opposition. To the extent possible, be sure that suggested topics meet each of the six criteria listed above. Suggestions which do not meet the criteria may take the form of an update or an article in the Voter.

   Prioritize your choices. Please indicate on the ballot the names and phone numbers of any unit members who wish to work on a specific new study or update.

3. Review existing Local Positions
   Identify any positions that you feel should be updated.

4. Review the Criteria for the selection of national study items:
   a. The issue must fall within the principles of the LWV.
   b. It must be one on which governmental action is needed.
   c. It must be within the province of national government.
   d. It must be one to which the League can make a significant contribution.
   e. It must be timely.
   f. Options must exist for citizen action.

5. Discuss possible new National Studies
   This is a consensus decision with agreement on major principles and the absence of major opposition. To the extent possible, be sure that suggested topics meet each of the six criteria listed above.

   Prioritize your choices.

6. Review existing National Positions
   Identify any positions that you feel should be updated.
2010 New Local Program Planning Suggestions

Unit: 
Number of Members: 

Possible Studies

Topic: 
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Topic: 
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Topic: 
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Positions to be Updated

Positions:

Return by January 29, 2010 to:
League of Women Voters of Seattle
1620 18th Avenue - Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98122

Individuals who are unable to attend unit meetings may also complete this form.
2010 NEW NATIONAL PROGRAM PLANNING SUGGESTIONS

Unit: Number of Members:

Possible Studies

Topic: Cumulative Votes
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Topic: Cumulative Votes
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Topic: Cumulative Votes
(describe scope and focus)

Names of potential study members:

Positions to be Updated

Positions:

Return by January 29, 2010 to:
League of Women Voters of Seattle
1620 18th Avenue - Suite 101
Seattle, WA 98122

Individuals who are unable to attend unit meetings may also complete this form.
LWVS Positions 2009 - In Brief

CITY GOVERNMENT

Citizen Participation
- Support legislation that links the granting and continuation of corporate subsides, tax preferences and incentives to specific criteria which ensure transparency and accountability. 2007

Vision of the City

Economic Development
- Support measures to achieve a healthy economy characterized by services that meet basic human needs. 1995
- Support measures to enhance the economy. 1995
- Support the use of public funds for economic development that benefits the public. 2006
- Support the evaluation of publicly-funded economic development activities to ensure that stated goals are achieved. 2006
- Support business regulation that is clear and consistent, and that protects public health, worker safety, and the environment. 2006
- Support legislation that links the granting and continuation of corporate subsides, tax preferences, and incentives to specific criteria which ensures transparency and accountability. 2006

Neighborhoods
- Support communication and cooperation between the city, other local governmental entities and neighborhoods to plan for, create and maintain healthy neighborhoods. 1992, 1993, 1994, 2002, 2003
- Support a process that allows stakeholders to participate in the development and implementation of neighborhood plans. 2002

Planning and Zoning
- Support the interdisciplinary approach in comprehensive planning. 1969, 1972, 1974, 1984
- Support density that is well planned, respects neighborhoods, facilitates public transportation, is environmentally sensitive and complies with growth management open space goals. 1992, 1994

Publicly Owned Property
- Support legally required procedures for determining when and what kinds of property are considered surplus. LWE 2004

Public–Private Partnerships
- Support measures to ensure accountability and adequate citizen participation/oversight in public-private partnerships. Our vision recognizes that public-private partnerships may serve as a mechanism for the City to work in concert with the private sector to achieve public objectives if specific elements are present. 2002

Governmental Structures
- Support home rule for the city of Seattle. 1963, 1975, 1984
- The city should have control over those matters which are of strictly local concern.
Support measures to increase accountability, responsiveness and efficiency of city government.

Support the separation of powers and an adequate system of checks and balances among the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government (and these respective functions), with the responsibilities of each being clearly defined. 1963, 1969, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1990


Support election criteria to foster fair and effective representation. 1996

Budget and Finance

Support adequate financial resources for city government.

Support criteria for use in prioritizing programs and projects. 1988

Support measures and procedures to ensure that the city’s budget and the budgets of other local governmental entities are prepared using sound financial management procedures and that citizens have ample opportunity to participate in the development and review of the proposed annual budget. 1983, 1988, 2003

Capital Improvement Projects

Support specific methods for financing capital improvements. 1985, 1987

Support measures to evaluate the development and implementation of capital improvement projects. 1985

Law Enforcement/Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation

Support a well-trained and adequate police force, responsive to public needs. 1969, 1979, 2002

Support police policies based on adequate planning, adequate staffing and adequate training, that protect the rights of free speech and assembly, while providing safety for all. 2002, 2008

Support an emphasis in law enforcement on building trust in immigrant communities, to include the policy of asking about an individual’s immigration status only if he/she has been charged with a felony or misdemeanor. 2008


Trade

Support the encouragement of more trade activity if this growth is well planned and sensitive to environmental concerns. (and to the needs of workers both in the U.S. and internationally)1978, 1982

Support an international trade policy, set primarily at the national level. The State and City should be involved in formulating this policy.

Municipal Court

Support a municipal court system organized to effectively and efficiently meet the needs of our urban community. 1986

Ethics in Government

Support ethics in government and measures to ensure that public officials and employees (and members of boards, commissions, and advisory committees) perform their responsibilities in the public interest in accordance with the highest ethical standards and measures to increase citizen confidence in government. 1994, 2003

Public Library

Support a public library system that provides the public with fundamental library services and access to information technology. 1993

HUMAN RESOURCES/SOCIAL POLICY

Human Services

Support measures to provide basic food, shelter and health care for those unable to provide for themselves and to provide training and opportunity for employment. 1982, 1984, 1990, 2004

Support funding for community mental health services that addresses factors such as the number of individuals needing services, complexity of client needs, and local factors such as housing and labor markets
that affect the cost of providing services. 2004

- Support removal of artificial barriers to advancement in employment. 1993
- Support the involvement of local government in sponsoring ESL classes for all immigrants. 2008
- Support measures to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, religion, age, gender, physical or mental disability, race, national origin, marital status or socio-economic status, and promote equal rights for all persons. 1994, 2000

**Housing**

- Support programs that promote individual choice of housing by enhancing the availability and affordability of alternatives throughout the city. 1992, 2000, 2004
- Support low-income housing programs which meet the needs of low-income persons, are well located with respect to schools, jobs, medical care, shopping and transportation, and contribute to the diversity of the neighborhood. 1978, 1982, 1994, 1995, 2000
- Support programs to aid homeless families and single adults and to prevent homelessness. 1995, 2004
- Support efforts to limit the damaging environmental and social effects of sprawl. 2000
- Support the efforts of government at all levels to increase the supply of affordable housing through a variety of programs. 2000
- Support policies which increase the density and the supply of affordable housing. 2000

**Health and Safety**

- Support provision of public health services to all residents without regard to their citizenship status. 2008
- Support measures to reduce the exposure of the population to toxics in the home such as: educating the public and public officials, informing the media, developing advocacy groups, improving building standards. 1990, 2001
- Support incentives to promote healthy homes. 1994, 2001
- Support research and education in the area of indoor toxics. 1994, 2001
- Support public health as a basic function of government that must receive adequate and sustained public funding. The activities that are critical in sustaining community health include: community-based preventive services; control of communicable diseases; emergency preparedness, and ensuring a safe and health environment. 2005

**Human Rights**

- Support a human rights agency as a necessary and useful local government function. 1966, 1969, 1976

**Microlending**

- Support the concept of microlending. 2000

**Women**

- Support local government policies that enable women to make economic and personal decisions for themselves and their families. 1981, 1993, 1994
- Support policies that promote gender equity in employment. 1993
- Support policies that promote awards of spousal maintenance. 1994
- Support a uniform system of legislation protecting a divorced spouse’s rights to pension benefits obtained during a marriage. 1994
- Support policies that promote reproductive choice. 1994

**Teens**

- Support government funding of programs to ensure health, safety, education and welfare of teens. 1995
- Support prevention and intervention programs to overcome problems of violence, suicide, homelessness, and family dysfunction. 1995

**Children**

- Support measures to assure that children have adequate food, clothing, education, medical care and a safe home environment free from abuse and neglect. While primary responsibility rests with the family, the
community must provide the support if the family does not. 1985, 2003

- Support programs that provide parenting education and assist parents in problem resolution which is important in fostering positive child development and preventing delinquency. 2003

**Early Childhood Programs**

- Support the use of public funds for programs that meet the cognitive, physical and social needs of children from birth through age eight; that encourage parent education and involvement; and that provide health and human services to these children and their families. 1990, 2006

**Drug Abuse and the Community**

- Support measures to expand and fund drug abuse prevention education and drug abuse treatment programs as a means to reduce the demand for drugs. 1992, 2004

**Juvenile Justice**

- Support measures to develop and provide family, child and youth development programs to prevent delinquency, crime, and/or recidivism. 2002.

**Cultural Activities**

- Support city involvement in cultural activities. 1989, 1994

**Historic Preservation**

- Support the following criteria to be applied in designating an historic landmark: historical, architectural, and aesthetic values. 1986
- Support historic preservation policies which decide each designation on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration other public priorities, particularly human needs. 1986
- Support sharing the costs and benefits of historic preservation by the public and private sector 1986
- Support a process for determining landmark designation that includes a broad-based commission, public hearings, and final approval by the City Council, with provisions for appeal. 1986

**SCHOOLS**

**Schools (general)**

- Support an educational system that will permit each child to acquire basic skills, to develop the ability to reason, to develop self-esteem and social skills and that will challenge all children to achieve their full potential. A variety of educational approaches should be provided to achieve these goals. 1974, 1987

**Financing**

- Support adequate long-range financing for our public schools. 1962, 1968, 1970

**Policy-Making**

- Support a curriculum which includes academics, the arts, physical education and work skills. LWE 2004

**Governance**

- Support measures that clearly delineate authority and responsibility at the school building level and a governance structure that involves the community. 1997

**Educational Reform**

- Support educational reforms that address individual student needs and measures that allow innovation and flexibility in education. 1997

**Administration**

- Support the delegation of administrative functions to an appointed superintendent responsible to the board. 1962, 1970, 1971, 1987
Support the school board and administration using all effective means of communicating with the public.

The board must actively seek the counsel of parents, teachers, students and other citizens throughout all phases of the policy-making process. 1962, 1971

Support the school board and administration establishing and implementing procedures for participation of school building staffs in district decision making.

School building staff should be involved in the district decision making processes which affect them and their work with students 1987.

Teacher Compensation
- Support teacher compensation systems that reflect geographic cost of living variables and special demographic factors, and that reward teacher growth and excellence. 1992

Citizen Participation in Budget Process

Children at Risk
- Support programs and staff to provide early identification of children at risk and appropriate counseling and/or referral. 1985

NATURAL RESOURCES
- Support measures which are precautionary in their approach to the use of processes and materials which may have unintended harmful effects. 2004

Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Greenbelts
- Support comprehensive planning, acquisitions, development, preservation and use of parks, open spaces, and green belts, both public and private, to provide a wide variety of facilities for all age groups. LWE 2004
- Support of the city’s park and open space plan. MI 2004
- Support measures to achieve a well-maintained, adequately funded, diverse and safe system of parks, recreation and open space which is accessible to all, with emphasis on public service that is flexible and responsive to changing demographics and social needs. 1990.
- Support preservation, acquisition and enhancement of open spaces, selected ecosystems and environmentally sensitive areas, and promotion of environmental awareness and sense of stewardship in the public. 1990, 1991
- Support Seattle Center as a unique urban park with a wide variety of activities and open space made available to residents and to non-residents of the city. 1981, 1989

Energy
- Support the formulation of clearly-defined governmental policies on energy. 1975
- Support the adjustment of the economy to zero energy growth, and the establishment of a definite target date. 1975, 1982
- Support governmental controls to accomplish energy conservation. 1975, 1994
- Support research and development on a wide variety of new energy sources such as solar, solid waste, wind, geothermal, tides and nuclear fusion. 1975
- Deregulation of the electric industry should be approached cautiously because of its possible impact on the environment and various stakeholders. 1998

Solid Waste Management
- Support measures to achieve waste reduction and recycling of solid waste as a first priority with environmentally safe disposal of the remainder. 1985

Air Quality
- Support reducing the amount of carbon dioxide produced to achieve a sustainable system. Incorporate the best available science to achieve best practices which may include mitigation. 2005
Litter
- Support measures to control litter as an environmental and aesthetic problem. 2005
- Support the role of individuals, business, volunteer groups and government in controlling litter. 2005
- Support the efforts of all individuals/groups to change attitudes so a litter-free environment is valued. 2005

Drainage and Wastewater Management
- Support the development of governmental policies, legislation and processes for storm water management that protect and maintain habitats as part of a sustainable ecosystem. 2009
- Support emerging scientifically-based practices that encourage best management practices, low impact development and natural drainage systems. 2009

KING COUNTY

Governance
- Support a county-wide policy-making body with legal authority to establish policy for functions which require area-wide solutions. 1997, 2000
- Support a form of county government that is representative of the areas governed. 1997, 2000
- Support a form of county government that would have the power and resources to carry out its functions including adequate financial resources. 1997, 2000, 2005
- Support increased efficiency and cost-effectiveness. 2000
- Support coordination and cooperation among all local governments, including ports, schools and special districts. 1997, 2000
- Support establishment of long-range goals, plans to attain them, and a performance budget in an understandable form, including a long-range capital improvement program. 1997, 2000
- Support maintaining discretionary county services, especially in the areas of health and human services. 2005
- Support cost containment through:
  - efficient administration of county systems
  - consolidation of special services, where appropriate
  - coordination between the cities and the county, particularly in the area of criminal justice
  - preventive services, including alternatives to incarceration. 2005
- Support the use of tools that would promote the annexation of urban areas, e.g.: education, state mandates, and financial incentives. 2005

Ethics in Government
- Support ethics in government and measures to ensure that public officials and employees perform their responsibilities in the public interest in accordance with the highest ethical standards and measures to increase citizen confidence in government. 1994, 2000, 2003

Courts
- Support implementing a strong court administration responsible for unified customer service, efficient management systems and coordinated technology. 1999
- Support reducing jurisdictional overlap except to provide flexibility in dealing with case overloads. 1999
- Support changes to the judicial selection system that would ensure qualified judges, increase public awareness of judicial elections and provide the public the information needed to make informed decisions. 1999

Special Districts
- Support consolidation of like special districts and setting of minimum, enforceable, county-wide standards for special districts.

Farmland
- Support a flexible combination of governmental programs to prevent a nonreversible alteration to lands
with prime or productive soils. The principal use of those lands should ultimately be food production. Governmental policies and programs including taxation and zoning should support King County agriculture (land and industry).

**Solid Waste Management**

- Support measures to achieve waste reduction and recycling of solid waste as a first priority with environmentally safe disposal of the remainder. 1985.
- Dependence on landfills for disposal of solid waste should be greatly reduced.

**Transportation and Growth Management**

- Support the concentration of population growth by coordinating growth management plans in order to support a mass transit system and to reduce sprawl. 2004
- Support a diverse, seamless, balanced transportation system that includes such features as regional and commuter rail, passenger-only and auto ferries, maximum development of high-occupancy vehicle lanes, express, local and feeder buses, transportation for special-needs, promotion of bicycle use, and adequate, safe pedestrian access to all transit and community services. 2004
- Support growth management/transportation planning and funding that includes cooperation and coordination among transportation systems to implement effective regional multi-modal transportation choices. 2004
- Support the use of public transportation systems through incentives such as convenient, affordable, secure transit services and pricing disincentives such as user-based taxes. 2004
- Support incentives for additional employer auto-trip reduction programs. 2004
- Support adequate and secure park-and-ride lots, community transportation centers and transit-oriented development where appropriate. 2004
- Support an increase in the amount of state, regional and local transportation funds to implement the most appropriate high priority transportation improvements consistent with adopted growth management and transportation plans. 2004

**REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY**

- Support water conservation efforts by all users including education programs, voluntary and mandatory conservation requirements that take into account previous conservation efforts and alternative types of water reuse. 1996, 1999
- Support a regional approach to water resources, watersheds, basins, aquifers and to the accountability of any decision-making bodies to citizens. 1999
- Support a legal framework to create a regional water entity to manage regional water development. 1996

**WASHINGTON STATE WATER RIGHTS AND GROUNDWATER PROTECTION**

- Support the principle of maximum net benefits including human health and safety, riparian habitat, concurrency of supply with permitted demand, Indian treaty rights, protection of in-stream flow, and hydraulic continuity. 1996, 1999
- “Allocation of waters among potential uses and users shall be based on the securing of the maximum net benefits for the people of the state. Maximum net benefits shall constitute total benefits less cost including opportunities lost.” (Water Resources Act, 1971)
- Support federal and state standards and guidelines on a watershed basis. Other governments should meet or exceed federal and state regulations. County government should be the most restrictive. 1996
- All wells (Class A, B, and single family residential wells) should be measured and the data regarding water withdrawal, use and claims be reported to King County and the Department of Ecology.

**PORT DISTRICTS**

- Support public port districts as authorized by R.C.W. Title 53.04.01 (as of 1985) with emphasis on coordinated planning, public accountability, purposes of the port and environmental sensitivity. Puget Sound Leagues of Women Voters’ position adopted by LWV Seattle in 1982; amended in 1989.
Public Policy Positions
League of Women Voters of the United States

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT
Promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive.

Voting Rights
Citizen's Right to Vote
Protect the right of all citizens to vote; encourage all citizens to vote.

DC Self-Government and Full Voting Representation
Secure for the citizens of the District of Columbia the rights of self-government and full voting representation in both houses of Congress.

Election Process
Apportionment
Support apportionment of congressional districts and elected legislative bodies at all levels of government based substantially on population.

Campaign Finance
Improve methods of financing political campaigns in order to ensure the public’s right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and promote citizen participation in the political process.

Selection of the President
Promote the election of the President and Vice-President by direct popular vote and work to abolish the Electoral College. Support uniform national voting qualifications and procedures for presidential elections. Support efforts to provide voters with sufficient information about candidates.

Citizen Rights
Citizen's Right to Know/Citizen Participation
Protect the citizen’s right to know and facilitate citizen participation in government decision making.

Individual Liberties
Oppose major threats to basic constitutional rights.

Public Policy on Reproductive Choices
Protect the constitutional right of privacy of the individual to make reproductive choices.

Congress and the Presidency
Congress
Support responsive legislative processes characterized by accountability, representativeness, decision-making capability and effective performance.

The Presidency
Promote a dynamic balance of power between the executive and legislative branches within the framework set by the Constitution.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Promote peace in an interdependent world by working cooperatively with other nations and strengthening international organizations.

United Nations
Support a strong, effective United Nations to promote international peace and security and to address the social, economic and humanitarian needs of all people.

Trade
Support U.S. trade policies that reduce trade barriers and expand international trade and advance the achievement of humanitarian, environmental, and social goals.

U.S. Relations with Developing Countries
Promote U.S. policies that meet long-term social and economic needs of developing countries.

Arms Control
Reduce the risk of war through support of arms control measures.

Military Policy and Defense Spending
Work to limit reliance on military force. Examine defense spending in the context of total national needs.

NATURAL RESOURCES
Promote an environment beneficial to life through the protection and wise management of natural resources in the public interest.

Natural Resources
Promote the management of natural resources as interrelated parts of life-supporting ecosystems.
Resource Management
Promote resource conservation, stewardship and long-range planning, with the responsibility for managing natural resources shared by all levels of government.

Environmental Protection and Pollution Control
Preserve the physical, chemical and biological integrity of the ecosystem, with maximum protection of public health and the environment.

Air Quality
Promote measures to reduce pollution from mobile and stationary sources.

Energy
Support environmentally sound policies that reduce energy growth rates, emphasize energy conservation and encourage the use of renewable resources.

Land Use
Promote policies that manage land as a finite resource and that incorporate principles of stewardship.

Water Resources
Support measures to reduce pollution in order to protect surface water, groundwater and drinking water.

Waste Management
Promote policies to reduce the generation and promote the reuse and recycling of solid and hazardous wastes.

Nuclear Issues
Promote the maximum protection of public health and safety and the environment.

Public Participation
Promote public understanding and participation in decision making as essential elements of responsible and responsive management of our natural resources.

Agricultural Policy
Promote adequate supplies of food and fiber at reasonable prices to consumers and support economically viable farms, environmentally sound farm practices and increased reliance on the free market.

Social Policy
Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice and the health and safety of all Americans.

Equality of Opportunity
Equal Rights
Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and efforts to bring laws into compliance with the goals of the ERA.

Education, Employment, Housing
Support equal access to education, employment and housing.

Fiscal Policy
Tax Policy
Support adequate and flexible funding of federal government programs through an equitable tax system that is progressive overall and that relies primarily on a broad-based income tax.

Federal Deficit
Promote responsible deficit policies.

Funding of Entitlements
Support a federal role in providing mandatory, universal, old-age, survivors, disability and health insurance.

Health Care
Promote a health care system for the United States that provides access to a basic level of quality care for all U.S. residents and controls health care costs.

Immigration
Promote reunification of immediate families; meet the economic, business and employment needs of the United States; be responsive to those facing political persecution or humanitarian crises; and provide for student visas. Ensure fair treatment under the law for all persons. In transition to a reformed system, support provisions for unauthorized immigrants already in the country to earn legal status.

Meeting Basic Human Needs
Support programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families.

Income Assistance
Support income assistance programs, based on need, that provide decent, adequate standards for food, clothing and shelter.
Support Services
Provide for essential support services.

Housing Supply
Support policies to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family.

Child Care
Support programs and policies to expand the supply of affordable, quality child care for all who need it.

Early Intervention for Children at Risk
Support policies and programs that promote the well-being, development and safety of all children.

Violence Prevention
Support violence prevention programs in communities.

Gun Control
Protect the health and safety of citizens through limiting the accessibility and regulating the ownership of handguns and semi-automatic weapons. Support regulation of firearms for consumer safety.

Urban Policy
Promote the economic health of cities and improve the quality of urban life.

Death Penalty
The LWVUS supports the abolition of the death penalty.

Whatever the issue, the League believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibilities, adequate financing, coordination among levels of government, effective enforcement and well defined channels for citizen input and review.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Southend - Sam Scharff</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Lila Bulen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:webcats@speakeasy.net">webcats@speakeasy.net</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3716 Cascadia Ave. S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Hill - Jeannette Kahlenberg</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Mary Margaret Pruitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:kahlenb@gmail.com">kahlenb@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Horizon House, 900 University St.</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Sky Lounge</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Capitol Hill/Montlake - Jan O’Connor</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>7:15 pm</td>
<td>Zita Cook</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:oconnor.js@gmail.com">oconnor.js@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2801 1st Ave. #911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Issaquah Evening - Ann Thornton (call to confirm date)</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>King County Library System Service Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:anninissaquah@gmail.com">anninissaquah@gmail.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>960 Newport Way NW, Iss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bellevue - Bonnie Rimawi</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Bellevue Regional Library, Rm. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:bonnierim@aol.com">bonnierim@aol.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1111 110th Ave. NE, Bellevue</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>West Seattle Day - Ethel Williams/Ann Bowden</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Ann Bowden</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:etheljw1@q.com">etheljw1@q.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Kenney, 7125 Fauntleroy Way SW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>West Seattle Eve - Barbara O’Steen</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Barbara Kaiser</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:barbarajosteen@yahoo.com">barbarajosteen@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8408 40th Ave. SW</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>North End Afternoon - Jo Dawson</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Helen St. John</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:warrenandjo@comcast.net">warrenandjo@comcast.net</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>12045 8th Ave. NW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Magnolia/Queen Anne/Ballard/Fremont Eve - Bettina Hosler</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Jaclyn Wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:glencoe1985@aol.com">glencoe1985@aol.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2858 32nd Ave. W #205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>View Ridge - Gail Winberg</strong></td>
<td>(206) 329-4848</td>
<td>12:45 pm</td>
<td>Gail Winberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:winbergeng@comcast.net">winbergeng@comcast.net</a></td>
<td></td>
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<td>6004 NE 60th St.</td>
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</table>
**Thursday, January 14**

**Issaquah Day - Margaret Austin**  
barrie.austin@comcast.net  
(206) 329-4848  
10:00 am Issaquah City Hall & Police  
130 E. Sunset Way, Coho Room  
(upstairs) **Note time change**

**Kirkland/Redmond - Sheila Hoff**  
srhoff123@yahoo.com  
(206) 329-4848  
7:00 pm Liv Grohn  
338 10th Ave., Kirkland  
Call for directions **Note time change**

**Mercer Island - Lucy Copass/Cynthia Howe**  
lucyco@speakeasy.org  
howe.john@comcast.net  
(206) 329-4848  
9:15 am Mercer Island Presbyterian Church  
3605 84th Ave. SE, Mercer Island

**Shoreline - Juliet Beard**  
juliet@windermere.com  
(206) 329-4848  
4:30 pm Richmond Beach Congregational Church, NW 195th St. and 15th Ave. NW

**North Central - Jan Orlando**  
orlanre@aol.com  
(206) 329-4848  
7:30 pm Gail Shurgot  
6536 31st Ave. NE

**University House - Wallingford - Barbara Denis/ Judy Coskey**  
bdenis340@comcast.net  
tjcoskey@msn.com  
(206) 329-4848  
10:00 am University House  
4400 Stone Way N

**Saturday, January 16**

**Ballard/Queen Anne/Magnolia Day - Kim Peterson**  
(206) 329-4848  
10:00 am Lisa and Kerry Peterson  
3932 Midvale Ave. N

**Wednesday, January 20**

**North King County - Rejean Idzerda**  
idzerda@comcast.net  
(206) 329-4848  
9:30 am Lake Forest Park Third Place Books  
17171 NE Bothell Way  
**Note time change**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Executive Committee</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Allison Feher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:president@seattlelwv.org">president@seattlelwv.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008–2010</td>
<td>1st V.P. Outreach</td>
<td>Maria Brusher</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:outreach.seattlelwv@gmail.com">outreach.seattlelwv@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2008–2010</td>
<td>2nd V.P.</td>
<td>Nora Leech</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:nleech2002@yahoo.com">nleech2002@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2008–2010</td>
<td>3rd V.P.</td>
<td>Sarah Luthens</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:luthens.seattlelwv@gmail.com">luthens.seattlelwv@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009-2011</td>
<td>4th V.P. Voter Editor</td>
<td>Beatrice Crane</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:votereditor@seattlelwv.org">votereditor@seattlelwv.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Brita Butler-Wall</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:secretary@seattlelwv.org">secretary@seattlelwv.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Treasurer/Unit Coordinator</td>
<td>Judy Bevington</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:gbeving@eskimo.com">gbeving@eskimo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Kelly Powers</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:membership.seattlelwv@gmail.com">membership.seattlelwv@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Christal Wood</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:gimme_steam@hotmail.com">gimme_steam@hotmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Public Relations</td>
<td>Jean Carlson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:jean.carlson@att.net">jean.carlson@att.net</a></td>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Education Fund Board</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Co-President</td>
<td>Denise Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:issaquahsmith@msn.com">issaquahsmith@msn.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Co-President</td>
<td>Laura Weese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:laura899@earthlink.net">laura899@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2008–2010</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis</td>
</tr>
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<td><a href="mailto:terrylucy2u@comcast.net">terrylucy2u@comcast.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>2009–2011</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Kris Bushley</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:abushley@earthlink.net">abushley@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<td>2008-2010</td>
<td>Officer</td>
<td>Dorothy Y. Sale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:saledy@comcast.net">saledy@comcast.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Off-Board Positions**

**CIS Coordinator**

Cynthia Howe

howe.john@comcast.net

**Committees**

**Civics Education**

Dana Twight
dctwight@u.washington.edu

**Economics & Taxation**

Nora Leech
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**Education**

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**Social Justice Committee**

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Kathleen Randall
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**Immigration**

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**International Relations**

Ellen Berg
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**Land Use**

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**Transportation**

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**Port Study**

Linda Brown
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**Privatization Study**

Nora Leech
nleech2002@yahoo.com
LWV SEATTLE: JANUARY FORUM

Program Planning

Seattle First Baptist Church
1111 Harvard Ave. (Harvard and Seneca)

Thursday, January 7

6:30      Unit Briefing
7:30      Forum

Come make your voice heard as the League considers its plans and priorities, for study and action, in 2010!

All forums are free and open to the public.