March is Women’s History Month, and this is an especially important year in the history of women in Washington State. Join us for the start of the festivities!

American women’s fight for their right to vote has always been closely tied to the story of the League of Women Voters. In 1995, we celebrated the 75th anniversary of our right to vote in the nation. This year and next, Washington will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the work of its women to win the right to vote in their own state. At our March forum, we will learn about the impact that victory had on the national campaign for women’s suffrage. Our state had a crucial role, and it is a very good story.

Washington was the fifth state in the Union to grant the right to vote to its women. It followed four other western states. Here is some background.

The territory of Wyoming passed a women’s suffrage bill in 1869. In 1889, it sought admission to the Union, but the voters refused to join without full women’s suffrage: “We will remain out of the Union a hundred years rather than come in without the women.” The 1890 vote of the Congress was close, but Wyoming became the first state to allow its women full voting equality.

The territory of Utah gave women the right to vote in 1870, but in 1887, Congress outlawed plural marriage and revoked women’s suffrage in the territory. Although the Mormon Church renounced plural marriage in 1890, Utah’s women did not regain the right to vote until 1895, when Utah became a state and women’s suffrage was written into its constitution.

Suffragists in many states tried to amend state constitutions to allow women’s suffrage by having referendum votes of the people. Only two of the referenda were successful, in Colorado (1893) and Idaho (1896). Carrie Chapman Catt took part in the campaigns in both states, using election precincts or districts as an organizing tool for the first time in Idaho.

Also in 1896, California experienced the largest, most complicated and best organized campaign so far. A win in California would make a difference in the U.S. Congress. But liquor interests in San Francisco and Alameda counties were successful in their opposition to the campaign; the women’s suffrage amendment carried everywhere except in those counties. An additional 13,400 votes would have changed the outcome. There were no more state campaigns until 1910.

In 1909, both houses of the Washington State Legislature approved amendments to the state constitution establishing women’s right to vote. Washington’s male voters ratified equal suffrage in 1910.
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## Contact Information

- President: Denise Smith
  - Voter Editor: Beatrice Crane

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

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

Office Hours:
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

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

Member section
- User name: lwvwa
- Password: voter

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

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President’s Message

Yesterday I walked about my neighborhood and the spring bulbs were beginning to break through; this morning schools were delayed and roads were closed for snow. Of course, I have lived in the Northwest long enough to know that winter ends and spring begins anytime and often multiple times between February and May. This year, however, with the national and local economic uncertainty, it would be comforting to have winter over and the new growing season commence, both literally and figuratively. We have a new administration, new energy and talent and as Robert Frost would say, “promises to keep and miles to go before we sleep.”

We in the League have had firsthand experience with the economic downturn. We have talented and experienced members out of work or holding hourly jobs while waiting for positions that could tap their immense skills, we have family members caught in layoffs or furloughs or primed to begin a career in a job market with no openings. We receive calls asking the League to advocate for social service programs for the growing number of needy families and individuals, or against local and state budget cuts to programs. Weekly we receive requests to attend fundraisers for the many other nonprofit organizations we align with. It is a dire irony of our economy that when the resources are strained the need is greater.

Today a notice arrived from the National League that they would be suspending publication of the National Voter until the League’s finances are healthier. You can read about this decision on page 11 and in the President’s Corner of the February 5 Leaders’ update on the “For Members” page of the LWVUS website, http://www.lwv.org. This is a clarion call for our Seattle League. As most of you know, the majority of our member dues go to the National and State Leagues: $28 to National and $17 to State, including a LWVS subsidy for low-income and emeritus members as needed.

Although thanks to legacies and the hard work of Victoria Bennett and her dedicated auction team our finances are sound for the next fiscal year, we will need to decide in the next few weeks how to raise the operating funds necessary to continue our advocacy and education work in the coming year. Our Political Party and Auction has provided the lion’s share of our funding for 32 years, but we must have a political party chair and committee to continue.

We have many very generous donors whose support allows us to carry out our mission. Actually, if each of our 811 members donated $89 more than their dues ($1 for each year the League has been in existence), we would take in as much as the Political Party does. Unfortunately, as we well know, each of us is being asked for support from many important causes. We would love to find a way to bring in funds for the League while nurturing our minds and our League souls. I encourage you to consider volunteering to chair or co-chair the political party committee, or to share any other ideas for fundraising with Victoria (funddevelopment@seattlelwv.org) and me.

And, speaking of the League’s 89th birthday (February 14), I hope to see you at the Seattle City Hall, Bertha Landes room, for our birthday celebration on February 27.

Denise D. Smith

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.
**March**

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Forum Schedule

The League of Women Voters of Seattle hosts public forums the first Thursday of each month. Upcoming forums are listed below; check the Voter each month for detailed information on the next forum. To find the Voter on the Seattle League website go to www.seattlelwv.org. Click the League library tab on the top banner and you will find a link to the current Voter.

March 5 - Washington Women’s Suffrage (Eastside Event)
April 2 - National Popular Vote
May 7 - Privatization

February Board Briefs  By Karen Adair, Secretary

Membership
Membership stands at 802. This is the number used to calculate our Per Member Payment (PMP) to the state and national Leagues. The Get-to-Know-League/New Member Dinner will be held before the March Forum at St. Andrews in Bellevue.

Units
Units will meet this month to discuss the drainage study. The Pioneer Square unit will no longer meet because of lack of turnout. There will be a new unit forming in the Lake Forest Park area.

Strategic Planning
Board members and committee chairs will be considering a summary of the work done at January’s board retreat. The final goals and action items will be presented at the new board’s summer retreat.

Program
February’s forum on drainage was interesting. There was a moderate turnout. Next month’s topic will be the significance of the state of Washington in the women’s suffrage movement.

Voter Service
Sarah Luthens announced that she would like to begin early on ballot issues summaries and will form a committee to begin that work.

Fundraising
The Board received a summary of fundraising and the auction, prepared by Victoria Bennett, to read and discuss at our March meeting.

Upcoming Events
LWVWA Convention is May 29 through 31 in Tacoma. The Board will pay for registration fees, as well as double occupancy hotel rooms for the delegates.

The LWVS and city councilmember Jean Godden will sponsor a League Birthday Party on February 27 from 2:00 to 4:00 in the Bertha Landes Room at City Hall. We will celebrate the League’s 89th birthday and recognize members who have gone on to elected public office. There will be cake and sparkling cider.
Committee Meetings

International Relations Committee
Date: Monday, March 2
Time: 12:45-2:45 p.m.
Place: League Office

Using the guidelines for formulating US foreign policy Fareed Zakaria offers in *The Post-American World*, we will be discussing Afghanistan and Pakistan (Afpak, as Richard Holbrooke calls it). Information on Afpak is available in the current Great Discussions book, and in recent newspapers and magazines. Anyone interested in participating is welcome; email Ellen Berg or Peggy Saari for the guidelines: ellenzberg@msn.com, peggysaari@comcast.net.

Civics Education Committee
Date: Thursday, March 19
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Place: To Be Determined

We will discuss how we want to use Civics Trivia in the future. Join us and add your ideas. For more information and location, contact Jaclyn Wall at speakingstrategies@hotmail.com.

Social Justice Committee
Date: Tuesday, March 10
Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.
Place: League Office

Transportation Committee
Date: Tuesday, March 17
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Place: League Office

King County Coordinating Committee
Date: Tuesday, March 17
Time: 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Place: League Office

Education Committee
Date: Wednesday, March 25
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Place: League Office

Please join us for a conversation with Seattle School Board President Michael DeBell.

Land Use Committee
Date: Thursday, March 26
Time: 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Place: Park Shore Building, 1630 43rd Ave. East (Madison Park)

Extremely limited, free parking is available on-site and along adjacent side streets; additionally, the #11 bus has neighborhood entry and departure stops within one block of Park Shore.

For further information, please contact Karen Kane at (206) 329-4848.

Economics and Taxation Committee
Date: Saturday, March 28
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: 909 E. Newton #D9

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

Help Wanted

There are many ways to become involved with the League of Women Voters. Upcoming specific opportunities are listed below:

Get to Know League Dinner:
The next Get to Know League Dinner is scheduled for Thursday, March 5 at 5:30. See page 14 for details on how you can help.

Elections Monitoring:
The League of Women Voters of Seattle gets many requests to monitor elections for local groups. In order to provide this important community service, we need a list of potential volunteers. This is a good opportunity for those who would rather donate a few hours as their schedules permit than take on a regular commitment. Please contact the League Office at (206) 329-4848 or email Lindsay@seattlelwv.org for more information.

Ballot Issues Analysis:
Voter Services Chair Sarah Luthens is assembling a team to analyze and summarize upcoming ballot issues. If you are interested in participating, please email voterservice@seattlelwv.org.

State Lobby Team in Olympia:
The state lobby team is recruiting new members—see article on page 13.

Come Talk Education!
by Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis, Education Chair

The Education Committee is presenting a series of meetings in the spring to discuss various hot education issues. We start out on Wednesday, March 25 at noon at the Seattle League office with a conversation with Michael DeBell, the Seattle School Board President. From closures to budget reductions, it should be an interesting discussion. In April, we will get an update on the Basic Education Joint Task Force proposals to revamp education. In May, we will see what is happening at the local level on early learning projects in Seattle and White Center. The meetings should last 1-1/2 hours. Stay tuned and join us.

LWVS Health Care Discussion Group

The League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS) Education Fund Board recently approved the LWVUS Health Care Education Task Force’s proposal for educating League members and the public on various health care topics. The Task Force will write a series of fact sheets on health care in America, followed by in-depth articles on selected topics which will provide current information on the five areas of the League’s current health care position. The initial fact sheets will be available on the LWVUS website, www.lwv.org, in March, with other articles following throughout 2009.

The Seattle League will hold a organizing meeting for a local Health Care discussion group on Friday, March 6, from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. This meeting will determine League members’ interest in following the work of the LWVUS Health Care Education Task Force as well as the discussions from the Obama Administration and Congress. The day, time and frequency of subsequent meetings will be determined at this meeting. If you are interested please come to this meeting. If you are not able to attend, please email president@seattlelwv.org with Seattle Health Care discussion in the subject line before March 6, and let us know when you would prefer to have the discussion group meet. We will include your email input in the planning process.
March ForUM and Dinner on the Eastside

The Get to Know League Dinner and Women's History Month Forum scheduled for Thursday, March 5, will be held on the Eastside, at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Bellevue. Directions to the church follow.

FROM I-405 (NORTH OR SOUTH BOUND) — Take exit 11 onto I-90 Eastbound (Spokane). Then take exit 11-B, 148th St. (Bellevue Community College). Go North on 148th to stop light at SE 28th. The church is on the NE corner.

FROM EASTBOUND I-90 — Take exit 11-B, 148th St. (Bellevue Community College). Go North on 148th to stop light at SE 28th. The church is on the NE corner.

FROM WESTBOUND I-90 — Take 156th St. exit. Turn left at light, go to 148th. Turn right (north) onto 148th and go to stop light at SE 28th. The church is on the NE corner.
CIS Welcomes New Volunteers
by Cynthia Howe, CIS Coordinator

With the advent of the new year, the CIS desk has welcomed two new volunteers to staff the desk on Monday afternoons and Friday mornings, completing the roster of ten volunteers who generously give three hours of their time a week to the League throughout the year.

Thank you and welcome to Lily Reid, a newcomer to the League, who joined just for the opportunity to work on the desk. She is a graphic artist, originally from England but now residing in Seattle with her husband, a professor at Seattle University. Lily is an avid bicyclist and hiker, but also has worked the polls and is keenly interested in the political process. If you call the office on Monday afternoons, she will answer your call with her lovely British accent. Welcome, Lily!

We also welcomed a long-time member and past president of the Seattle League, Dorothy Sale, to work the desk on Friday afternoons. Dorothy has been a fixture in the League for many years, and is active in women’s issues. Currently she serves on a governor’s advisory committee and has been the organizer for the March Women’s History Forum. She and her husband, Roger, have recently moved to Horizon House, within hailing distance of the office. Welcome back, Dorothy!
The 2009 edition of *They Represent You* (TRY) is now available in the League of Women Voters of Seattle (LWVS) office. 100,000 were published, so we have plenty for members and friends who want to pick up a supply. We are very pleased with the cover, which was designed by a student at The Art Institute of Seattle, Yael Pouffary. Four additional pages were added this year so that we could feature larger entries about more of King County’s cities. We also included information about King County tribes, as well as extensive information about voting by mail. Beginning this year, there will be no more polling places in King County.

TRYs will be available at libraries, city halls, and other locations around the county. We will mail two copies of the TRY to those requesting them. We can also mail greater quantities in priority mail boxes, but reimbursement for postage is required. The postage costs (subject to Post Office increase) are $4.95 for 7 to 20 copies and $10.35 for 21 to 100 copies. Contact the LWVS office for further information.

We are so appreciative of those members and friends who donated to this project. Their names are listed below.

| 46th District Democratic Organization | Carmen Cook | Jennifer Kauffman |
| Ellen Aagard and Matt Corwin          | Michael and Lucy Copass | Rebecca Kenison |
| Karen Adair                          | Beatrice Crane           | King County Democratic Central Committee |
| AFT Seattle Community Colleges Local 1789 | Nancy Debaste | LADS Local 1144 Pat Lane |
| Nancy and Charles Bagley             | Barbara Denis            | Thomas Langley |
| Carolyn Baker                        | Dick’s Drive-In Restaurants | Lawrence True and Linda Brown Foundation |
| Nadine Baker                         | Christine DiStefano      | Sharon Lee |
| Theresa Baker                        | Vicky Downs              | Monica Leigh |
| Virginia Barker                      | Nancy and Eric Eitreim   | Patricia Lein |
| Sandy Barney                         | Edward Erickson          | Phelia Lorenzen |
| William Best                         | Nancy Ericsson           | LWV King County South Janet Lynch |
| Barbara Beuschlein                   | Brenda Etter             | Anne Mack |
| Ann Bowden                           | Hilke Faber              | Dorris Martin |
| Lael Braymer                         | Mary Fite Black          | Linda Maser |
| Bobbe Bridge                         | A Friend of the League   | JoAnne McGaw |
| Herb Bridge                          | Margaret Garber          | Metropolitan Democratic Club |
| Trudy Brown                          | Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis      | Microsoft Corporation Yuri Nakata |
| Joan Brown                           | Marcy Golde              | Mary Neilson |
| Helen Brumbach                       | Sue Gregory              | Betty Ann Newell |
| Jean Burch Falls                     | Audrey Gruger            | Lois North |
| Kris Bushley                         | Verda Hansberry          | Jan O’Connor |
| Leo Butzel                           | Therese Hansen and Rep. Jim Jan Orlando |
| Emeline Caldwell                     | McDermott                | Judy Ostrow |
| Joan Peterson                        | Annette Holcomb          | Sarah Ovens |
| City of Lake Forest Park             | Dorothy Hopper           | Painters Local 300 (IUPAT) Joan Peterson |
| Anne Conkle                          | Cynthia Howe             | Charlotte Kanemori |
We also acknowledge those who helped with the project. Their names are listed on page two of the publication. A special thanks to the members of the First Hill unit (primarily from Horizon House) who prepared the mailing to our 800 members and did this in three hours. Their names are listed below.

Genevieve Baker
JoAnn Conard
Addie Gold
Lenore Hale
Anna Haman
Jeannette Kahlenberg
Viola Loflin
Alice Moss
Sue Pocock
Betty Sullivan
Roz Wolfe

If your name was omitted in error, please consider yourself included in the thanks.

The names of Therese Hansen and Rep. Jim McDermott were accidentally omitted from the back of the TRY. They contributed at the $500 level.

Also omitted was the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE). They donated at the $500 level.

We sincerely apologize for these omissions.
Suspension of The National Voter
A Notice From the League of Women Voters of the United States (LWVUS)

At its meetings last week, the LWVUS Board of Directors decided to suspend publication of the National Voter magazine (paper and digital) until the League’s finances are healthier. Publication costs for the Voter are prohibitive in a time of budget cutbacks. The Board and the LWVUS staff are committed to finding new ways to deliver information to our members and supporters. We will keep you informed as we move forward. Please read the weekly Leaders’ Updates on our website. Please also share them with other members and remind them to send us their e-mail addresses. We want you to know that we very much appreciate your willingness to replace the paper Voter with the digital edition, and we regret that we cannot continue. We do welcome your suggestions for ways we can most effectively adapt and communicate material you value in the Voter. Questions and comments can be sent to Board Member Nancy Eitreim at neitreim@speakeasy.net.

There’s Magic in Civics
by the Civics Education Committee

“How many electoral votes does Washington State have?” If you know the answer, you could have posed a serious threat to the winning team at the inaugural Civics Trivia Contest held February 8.

Three teams crossed swords and matched wits at Vios Pub at Third Place Books in Ravenna. They met in a most convivial atmosphere, amongst old growth timber and wood-paneled walls, during Happy Hour. League members and nonmembers, men and women, joined forces to learn, compete and WIN.

Fake answers were called out to distract the other teams. While enjoying pear cider, microbrews and excellent Greek appetizers, contestants put their heads together to discern the responses to questions in categories such as “Luck of the Draw” and “What’s in a Name.” By the way, according to some, the answer to every query was either “42” or “Ohio”.

The Shaker Awakers, ably led by Elsie Simon and Dorothy Swarts, placed first, with The Ohio Governators and The Magnificent Seven Minus One giving them a run for their money.

Plans are afoot for your Civics Education Committee to schedule another event soon. No pressure, no shame, lots of fun – what better way to learn civics? Don’t miss out; join us next time!
**LOBBY TEAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**

**BY BETTY SULLIVAN, PRESIDENT, EDUCATION FUND**

The League of Women Voters of Washington Lobby Team is looking for a few good women (or men) to follow some subjects during this legislative session. Every member of the Lobby Team has a portfolio and will work only on bills pertaining to that subject. For example, we have members who follow Energy, Natural Resources, Children’s Issues, etc. But we have a number of subjects where more help is needed. For example, there is no one covering Human Services, Corrections, Agriculture, Consumer Protection or Public Safety. Some areas are so large that another person is needed to help monitor bills.

Lobby Team meetings are held in Olympia every Thursday from 12 noon to 2 p.m. in the Cherberg Building on the capitol campus. Our professional lobbyist, Lonnie Johns-Brown, meets with us and keeps us current with what is happening in Olympia. At the meetings team members report on what is happening with bills in their subject areas. Lobby Team members can also do a very good job without going to the meetings. There is a conference call system, so members can listen and contribute to the meetings from home.

Using the legislative website, members can search by subject, look up bills, and get other information. Lobby Team members also prepare and deliver testimony at committee hearings. They often visit legislators to lobby for bills that the League is supporting.

If you want to really learn how things operate in Olympia during the legislative session, there is no better way than to join the Lobby Team. If you want to visit, that’s fine, too. Any League member can attend Lobby Team meetings. If you would like more information or want a ride to Olympia to attend a meeting, please call Betty Sullivan at (206) 329-4848. Betty may be able to answer your questions. Or email Barbara Bush, the Lobby Team Coordinator, at omi.bush@verizon.net.

**PUBLIC FINANCING FOR STATE SUPREME COURT ELECTIONS: AN UPDATE**

**BY JEAN CARLSON, LWVS MEMBER**

“Justice should not be for sale,” say volunteers with Washington Public Campaigns (WPC), a statewide organization currently advocating public funding for Supreme Court campaigns in Washington State.

Legislation to establish a program of optional public financing, HB1738, introduced by Rep. Marko Liias, 21st Legislative District, is before the current session of the Washington State Legislature. A companion bill, SB5912, was submitted to the State Senate by Sen. Eric Oemig, 41st Legislative District. The legislative intent is to reduce the likelihood or appearance of corruption or undue influence in the state’s highest court by allowing candidates the option of financing their campaigns with public funding. The WPC website, washclean.org, has information and links to articles, reports and data about public funding for judicial campaigns, including a summary of key features and provisions of a proposed Judicial Bill.

The League of Women Voters believes that the methods of financing political campaigns should ensure the public’s right to know, combat corruption and undue influence, enable candidates to compete more equitably for public office and allow maximum citizen participation in the political process.
Getting to Know League Dinner Announcement

The Get to Know League dinner will be held on Thursday, March 5, 2009 at 5:30 p.m., prior to the Women’s History Month forum at St. Andrews Church in Bellevue. (2650 148th Avenue SE, Bellevue, 98007, (425) 746-2529).

The topic of the forum at 7:30 p.m. will be the impact of the state of Washington on the women’s suffrage movement.

The Get to Know League dinner is the first contact for many new members and involves many volunteers. If you would like to contribute your favorite lasagna or salad or share your League story, your participation is welcome. If you can help with setup, act as a table captain, bring flowers, be a greeter, bake cookies or help in any other way, please contact Kitty Mahon, (425) 329-4848 / membership@seattlelwv.org, or call the CIS desk at (206) 329-4848 and leave a message. Invitations have been sent to many new or returning members of the League. If you did not receive an invitation and would like to attend or bring a guest, please let us know. Thank you.

Recruitment

When you attend a League event, do you invite a friend? Often when talking with friends and families about our daily activities, we’ll share the news that we’re members of the League of Women Voters or are going to an event or reading an article related to the League. Next time, offer an invitation or to share the publication. You might just be surprised when they say “yes.”

Donors

A very warm thank you to our members who have contributed to the League of Women Voters of Seattle by making a donation in addition to the payment of their dues. These are: Carol Lumb, Nick Smith, Naomie Bulloch, Pam and Donald Mitchell, Nadine Baker, Nancy DeBaste, Karen Duval, Rachel Garson and Linda Snider. Their additional contributions help to support the work of the League, including making membership possible for others at lower fees.

Per Member Payment

The official count of members submitted to the national and state Leagues on January 31, 2009 was 802. Each local League submits per member dues payments to the national and state Leagues. The 2008/2009 per member payment to the national League is $28.00 and to the state is $17.00. The Seattle League retains $15.00 per member out of each dues payment it receives.

National and State News

If you are not already a subscriber, you may want to sign up for notices from the national and state Leagues via email. This is a great way to stay connected with what’s going on beyond our own Seattle League.

National website:

Check out the recent message from the President: Important Board Decisions on Council, The National Voter, Legislative Priorities and Health Care. To subscribe, go to www.lwv.org, click on “For Members” and follow the instructions on the “Stay Informed” sign-in.

State website:

Find out about Action updates in Olympia. To subscribe, go to: http://lwwa.org/mailman/listinfo/lwwanews_lwvwa.org.
My prejudice against Condoleezza Rice’s schoolmarm voice made me disinclined to read a biography about her. Fortunately, respect for New York Times journalist Bumiller’s skills outweighed any negative feelings.

Bumiller’s introduction describes Rice, then the National Security Advisor to President G. W. Bush, on the phone on September 11, 2001 as she learned that the Trade Center had been hit by a commercial airliner. She instantly called for the National Security Team, including Vice President Cheney and Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. What followed were “the most harrowing [hours] of her life,” according to Bumiller. However, it was clear that whatever Rice may have felt, she kept her cool, though some others did not.

This book shows us how Rice, “the first African-American to become National Security Advisor and later Secretary of State,” rose from a childhood in Birmingham, the “most segregated city” in America, to become a respected and even glamorous public figure. We learn that like many black girls, she strove to be “twice as good” as the white children, so as to be ready when segregation ended.

Her father and mother, elites in the colored section of town where they lived, were able to protect Rice from the worst aspects of segregation, and could provide her with many opportunities to learn and grow. She took ballet and music lessons after school as well as special lessons from her father, who taught her football plays in the back yard. He instilled a profound love of the game that helps explain the collection of football helmets that graced her White House office later in life.

After 1963, when her hometown became known as “Bombingham”, Mr. Rice took his family to Denver. Condoleezza attended a Catholic girls’ school before entering the University of Denver. She had planned to major in music, but participating in a summer workshop at Aspen, she realized she had no special talent; though she could play the notes, she “couldn’t play the music.” Looking for a new major, she walked into Professor Josef Korbel’s lecture on Stalin and his power, and was hooked. Korbel, a Czech refugee, was a university elder statesman and happened to be the father of Madeleine Albright, who would become the first woman secretary of state. “For Rice, like Albright, Korbel would be one of the major influences in her life.”

Taking a job at Stanford, she worked hard to become a good and popular teacher and valuable to the university. This was to become a pattern in her life: first she proved her worth, and in so doing came to the attention of powerful people, who soon found her a special asset and a strong ally.

In the 1980s she entered the Hoover Institute on a fellowship. A year later, attending a Council on Foreign Relations fellowship at the Pentagon, she “effectively parachuted into the inner working of the Defense Department,” when arms negotiations with the Soviet Union, her area of expertise, were dominating US foreign policy.

By the time G.W. Bush ran for president, it was clear to many that Rice would become an important member of his campaign, and later a member of his team in the White House.

The deep relationship between Bush and Rice was soon obvious to everyone, and it was based on such things as a mutual enthusiasm for football and working out, as well as on their need for each other. He was happy to be with someone who knew so much about the world and politics, who could explain it in terms he understood and who protected him. On the other hand, she appreciated being necessary to someone in power. Andrew Card, the Deputy Chief of Staff, said, “The president loved Condi, ...I think they love each other in some familial sense.”

Though I seldom felt drawn to Rice as a person, I enjoyed reading about her. She may have been unable to solve any of the major problems of the world, but Bumiller says she “nudged them forward.” It must have been extraordinarily difficult to work with people like Cheney and Rumsfeld. In the first six years of the Bush Administration, they both not only outranked her, but were far more experienced in the ways of Washington and could literally sneak around her to see the President when they wanted to do so. Still, she managed to keep a working relationship with each of them, and when the time came late in the game, Bush agreed to let Rumsfeld go and then brought in Rice’s choice for the new Secretary of Defense: Robert Gates. In addition, she recommended that he close the secret prisons Cheney had established in Europe, which he did.

Condoleezza Rice is now back in California, probably writing a book about the world in which she played a major role. Undoubtedly, she will continue to be a “considerable public figure.”

The opinions in this review are personal and do not represent those of the LWV.
March Program: Washington Women’s Suffrage

The documents on pages 17-23 are reprinted courtesy of:

Women’s History Consortium
Washington State Historical Society
211 21st Avenue SW
Olympia, WA 98501
washingtonwomenshistory.org

We are grateful to the Washington State Library for providing and allowing us to reprint the picture on the cover.

UNIT DISCUSSIONS

Units are free to approach the topic of the suffrage movement and women’s history in Washington State in any way they like. Some suggestions:

1) Discuss your own family’s experience with suffragette history.

2) Discuss your own or your family’s experience with Washington women’s history.

3) Discuss current women’s issues that we should address.

4) Identify three top women’s issues in the Washington/Seattle area.

5) Identify women’s issues the League should study more or take action on.
THE FIGHT FOR WASHINGTON WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE—A BRIEF HISTORY:

Women’s voices and influence have always been a part of Washington’s history, even without the vote. The fight for permanent woman’s suffrage in Washington, however, spans over 50 years in territorial and state history. Washington was the first state in the 20th century and the fifth state in the Union to permanently enact women’s suffrage. Washington women’s success in 1910 helped inspire the campaign that culminated in passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in 1920, when women won the right to vote nationally.

As a territory, Washington could enact voter qualifications by legislative action under its Federal Organic Act. As early as 1854, a mere six years after the first women’s rights convention was held in Seneca Falls, New York, the first Washington Territorial Legislature considered enacting women’s suffrage. House Member Arthur A. Denny introduced an amendment for women’s suffrage to a pending voting bill and the amendment failed by only one vote.

In 1867 the Washington Territorial Legislature passed a law giving the right to vote “to all white citizens above the age of 21.” This law became the rallying point for early women’s suffrage advocates who cited the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution in conjunction with the law which defined “citizen” as being “all persons born or naturalized in the United States.” Suffragists tested their voting rights based on the 14th Amendment rationale in 1869 at White River, but their votes were rejected. However, fifteen women successfully voted in Thurston County in 1870.

In 1871, prominent national suffrage advocate Susan B. Anthony traveled to Washington Territory, as did suffragists Laura DeForce Gordon from California and Abigail Scott Duniway from Oregon. The Territorial Legislature failed to pass a “declaratory” suffrage bill in 1871 by a slim margin. However, Anthony’s visit spurred the creation of Suffrage Associations in the Territory. That same year, Territorial Legislators responded to women’s intense lobbying by enacting a law which declared that women could not vote until the U.S. Congress made it the law of the land.

In 1875, Territorial Legislators introduced a women’s suffrage bill, but the measure lost in the House by a vote of 11 in favor to 15 opposed.

Throughout the 1850s and 1860s, women had alternately been allowed and then restricted from participating in school district meetings to choose local school boards. Women likely voted in school meetings by 1871 and finally, in 1877 the Territorial Legislature passed a law enfranchising tax-paying women in school meeting elections outright. This role in school elections reflected a prevailing belief that women had a “sphere” that included home and family matters.

Despite a petition signed by 600 men and women demanding that it be included, delegates to the first Washington State Constitutional Convention held in Walla Walla in 1878 excluded women’s suffrage from the proposed constitution by a vote of seven to eight. Washington male voters rejected two separate ballot issues related to suffrage by a three to one margin as part of the vote on the State Constitution.

In 1881, the Washington House of Representatives passed a women’s suffrage bill by a vote of 13-11, but the measure lost in the Council by a vote of five to seven.

Finally, in 1883 both Houses of the Washington State Territorial Legislature passed women’s suffrage. Governor William Newell signed the bill into law on November 23, 1883. Only the Territories of Wyoming and Utah had enacted women’s suffrage prior to Washington Territory.
In 1884, the Territorial Supreme Court reaffirmed women’s suffrage in a challenge relating to women as jurors.

In 1886, the Territorial Legislature clarified the wording of voting rights to state “[a]ll American citizens, male and female” could vote rather than the somewhat vague wording of 1883 legislation which stipulated that where “his” was used it was to be construed as “his” and “her.” The legislation was signed on November 26, 1886 by Governor Watson Squire.

After gaining voting rights, women voted for reforms in local elections, and helped to send a Democrat to Congress, a rarity in Washington Territory. Women’s votes played a role in enacting local option prohibition.

Because of a technicality in the enacting clause of the 1886 legislation, in 1887 the Washington Territorial Supreme Court revoked suffrage in a suit brought by a gambler indicted by a grand jury that included women.

On January 18, 1888 the Washington Legislature reenacted the suffrage law with an appropriate title. The measure excluded women from serving on juries. However, that same year the Washington Territorial Supreme Court decided another suffrage case and ruled that the suffrage law was void because Congress had not intended to empower territories to enact women’s suffrage—thus taking away Washington women’s right to vote.

This disqualification of women from voting weakened the cause of suffrage at the 1889 Washington State Constitutional Convention since women could not vote for electors to the convention. Women’s suffrage was a separate issue on the State Constitutional ballot in 1889, but lost by 19,000 votes.

After statehood, enactment of women’s suffrage required a state constitutional amendment. In 1890 the legislature reinstated the limited right of women to vote in school elections, which had been authorized by the state constitution in 1889.

The Fusionist and Populist reformers in the 1897 state legislature passed a bill for a statewide vote to amend the Washington Constitution to grant women’s suffrage. Despite work by suffrage groups statewide, the amendment lost by a vote of 30,540 to 20,658 the following year.

After a lull in efforts around the turn of the 20th century, by 1906, new, more organized efforts to win women’s suffrage began in earnest in Washington under the leadership of Tacoma resident Emma Smith DeVoe, who was professional organizer for the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and noted suffragist May Arkwright Hutton of Spokane.

Organizers enrolled suffragists throughout the state; by 1909, they were poised for an onslaught in Olympia to influence the legislature to pass a measure that would allow a vote to amend the state constitution to enable women’s suffrage. Lobbying efforts by women influenced a coalition of Progressives in the legislature to pass legislation in February, 1909 amending the Washington Constitution to enable women to vote, pending a ratification vote of the male voters of the state in November, 1910.

During the 1909-10 campaign, the suffragists followed a modified “still hunt” strategy. The emphasis was not generally on public rallies but the personal, intensive work of wives, mothers and sisters to influence the men who went to vote at the polls. However the suffragists used modern media and distributed one million pieces of literature. The Washington State Grange, Labor Unions, the Farmer’s Union and other groups backed ratification as well.

The ballot measure to amend Article VI of the Washington Constitution won by majority of 22,623, on November 8, 1910, a favorable vote of nearly 2 to 1. Washington State joined the western states of Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and Idaho, that had already enacted women’s suffrage. Washington was the first state in the 20th century to pass women’s suffrage,
helping to inspire the nationwide campaign and setting the stage for the eventual national suffrage constitutional amendment in 1920. The Washington law, however, allowed only those who could read and speak English to vote and provided that “Indians not taxed shall never be allowed the elective franchise.” Many other women, including immigrant Asians, who were subject to other restrictive citizenship laws, were still denied the right to vote.

Washington voters first elected women to the state Legislature in 1912 for the 1913 session. On March 22, 1920, in a Special Session called by Governor Louis Hart, the Washington State Legislature ratified the 19th Amendment to U.S. Constitution, known as the “Susan B. Anthony Amendment,” enabling national suffrage for women. Representative Frances Haskell from Pierce County introduced the resolution and the only other woman legislator at the time, Representative Anna Colwell of Snohomish, addressed the session along with suffragists Emma Smith DeVoe and Carrie Hill.

The campaign for women’s rights in Washington, however, did not end in 1910, but continues to the present. By commemorating the Suffrage Centennial, Washingtonians celebrate the long and arduous road to the achievement of women’s suffrage, the continuing struggle for women’s rights and the significant role of women in public and private life.

**Women's Votes, Women's Voices—Washington Women's Suffrage Centennial Exhibit**

Washington State celebrates its centennial of permanent women's suffrage in 2009-2010. This exhibit will highlight the history of the struggle to attain women's right to vote in Washington State and illuminate how women's voting influenced territorial and state history as well. The exhibit will tell the story of how women from various ethnic and economic groups have achieved a voice in public life, despite barriers through organizing and activism. The exhibit will stress how suffrage was a springboard to women's achievements throughout Washington's history and extending into the present, how women organizing for change have made a difference in Washington. The exhibit is co-curated by the Washington State Historical Society and the Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture. A smaller traveling exhibit will also be developed to circulate statewide. The exhibit opens February 28, 2009 at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma.

**Featured in the Exhibit:**

Highlights of the exhibit include Susan B. Anthony's glasses and clothing, authentic materials from the 1909-1910 suffrage campaign, archival documents from all periods of the suffrage movement in Washington and artifacts from the national campaign from the Sewall-Belmont House collections in Washington, D. C.

**Publications:**

A companion publication to the exhibit will be produced.

**Educational Programs:**

A curriculum module keyed to educational school standards in Washington State produced through the education department of the Washington State Historical Society in consultation with
the Washington Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction will be on-line concurrently with the opening of the exhibit at http://stories.washingtonhistory.org/education/teachers/index.shtml

**Technical Details for the Exhibit:**

Exhibit Designer: Storyline Studio, Seattle  
Size: 3,500 square feet

**Exhibit Venue Schedule (Subject to Change):**

Washington State History Museum: Saturday, February 28, 2009 through Sunday, Sept 27, 2009  
Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center: Saturday, October 24, 2009 through Sunday, January 10, 2010  
Yakima Valley Museum: Thursday, February 11, 2010 through Sunday, June 20, 2010  
Museum of History & Industry, Seattle: Saturday, July 17, 2010 through Sunday, October 3, 2010  
Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture: Saturday, October 30, 2010 through Sunday, June 26, 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT WOMEN’S HISTORY IN WASHINGTON AND THE SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL VISIT:  www.washingtonwomenshistory.org
“He has never permitted her to exercise her inalienable right to the elective franchise. He has compelled her to submit to laws in the formation of which she had no voice.”

Declaration of Sentiments – Seneca Falls, NY – 1848

19th Amendment
Reformers, an important 19th century leader, held her final rally in Spokand.

Representative Frances M. Haskell of Pierce County introduced the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution to the state legislature.

1908 Celebration at Seneca Falls of the 50th anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention.

1908 Alice Paul of the National Woman’s Party opens in 1909 with the “Victory Flag” which had a star for each of the 36 states needed to ratify the 19th amendment.

EMMA SMITH DILL, organizer of the successful 1910 campaign for women’s suffrage in Washington.

WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE

In Washington

1853 Washington Territory receives from Oregon, March 3. Women’s suffrage legislation is introduced during the first session of the Washington Territorial Legislature. It fails on a vote of 8 to 9.

1854 Women’s suffrage legislation is introduced during the first session of the Washington Territorial Legislature. It fails on a vote of 8 to 9.

1869 Mary Olney Brown and her daughter attempt –unsuccessfully— to vote at White River, King County.

1870 Seven Thurston County women succeed in voting at Grandview, and eight more at the penitentiary in Walla Walla. Women attempting to vote in nearby Olympia are turned away from the polls.

1876 Northwest suffrage: Abigail Scott Duvall presents a petition signed by 600 Washington women and men to the first Washington Constitutional Convention asking that the word “male” be omitted from the new constitution. The request is denied on a vote of 7 to 8. A proposal for the inclusion of women’s suffrage also fails.

1885 Catherine Blaine, registrar in Seattle, Wyoming and Idaho are the only other territories permitting women to vote.

1887 Women of Washington lose the right to vote when the Washington Territorial Supreme Court rules that the title of the 1885 Suffrage Act did not sufficiently describe the Act’s content.

1889 Women, no longer disfranchised, are unable to vote for electors to the Washington State Constitutional Convention. Activists from Olympia petition the Convention to include women’s suffrage in the new State Constitution, but women are given the right to vote only in school elections.

1897 Popular-Franchise Reformers pass a bill in the Washington State Legislature to amend the State Constitution to give women the vote. When the issue goes on the statewide ballot for certification the next year, it fails.

1899 The Washington State Legislature passes an amendment to the State Constitution allowing women’s suffrage. The amendment must be approved by the male voters of Washington.

1900 The Fifth Amendment to the Washington State Constitution granting women the right to vote in all state and local elections, passes on November 6, 1900.

1908 60th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention

1909 The Washington State Legislature ratifies the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Washington is the second to last state needed to take it over the top.

1848 First Women’s Rights Convention is held in Seneca Falls, New York.

1869 Mary Olney

1870

1880

1885

1899

1900

1908

1909

1910

1912

1914

1916

1918

1920

Enlightenment marched from west to east. This 1865 image, The Awakening by Hy Mayer, illustrates western states leading the way to women’s suffrage.
Women’s Suffrage Calendar of Events – 2009

February 11, 2009 @ 11:30
House of Representatives Chamber
Joint Session of the House and Senate
Medal of merit presentation for May A. Hutton and Emma S. Devoe

February 28, 2009 – September 27, 2009 @ 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Washington State History Museum (WSHM), Tacoma.
Opening Celebration of “Women’s Votes, Women’s Voices” Washington Women’s Suffrage Centennial Exhibit
Program Activities 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 pm

March 1, 2009 to May 31, 2009
Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, 319 2nd Ave. S., Seattle, WA
“Catharine Blaine: Seneca Falls and the Women’s Rights Movement in the State of Washington”, Exhibit

March 14, 2009 @ 2:00 pm
Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, 319 2nd Ave, Seattle
Presentation by Shanna Stevenson, Coordinator, Washington Women’s History Consortium, on Seattle Women in the Suffrage Movement.
March 23, 2009 @ Noon
State Capital Museum, 211 21st Avenue SW, Olympia
Presentation by Shanna Stevenson, Coordinator, Washington Women’s History Consortium on Olympia Women in the Suffrage Movement

March 26, 2009 @ 10:30 am
Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle
Organization of American Historians Meeting
The Washington State Women’s History Consortium: An Innovative Model for Women’s History

March 27, 2009 @ Noon
Old Capitol Building, Olympia, WA
Dedication of marker at the Old Capitol building where the 1909 Legislature voted to place on the 1910 ballot a state constitutional amendment granting women’s suffrage. Sponsored by the Washington State Society, Daughters of the American Colonists.

March 28, 2009 @ 2:30 pm
Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park, 319 2nd Ave, Seattle
Presentation by Vivien Rose, Chief of Cultural Resources, Women’s Rights National Historic Park, Seneca Falls, NY

March 28, 2009 @ 10:30 am
Washington State History Museum, Tacoma
Organization of American Historians Meeting - Competing Women’s Rights Alternatives at the League of Nations and United Nations, 1930-1950

March 28, 2009 @ 1:45 pm
Washington State History Museum, Tacoma
Organization of American Historians Meeting - “Gendering the Silent Majority”

June 19, 2009 @ Noon
Washington State History Museum, Tacoma
Address by historian Dr. Rebecca Mead on Suffrage in the West

June 20, 2009 @ Noon
Washington State History Museum, Tacoma
Washington State Historical Society, Annual Meeting
Address by suffrage historian Rebecca Mead, “Washington’s Place in Women’s Suffrage”

October 2009
Wenatchee Valley Museum and Cultural Center
Women’s Votes, Women’s Voices” Women’s Suffrage Centennial Exhibit

For more information go to www.washingtonwomenshistory.org. Photograph from the Washington State Historical Society
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<td><a href="mailto:pattimusic@comcast.net">pattimusic@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td>Bonnie Rimawi</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bonnierim@aol.com">bonnierim@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terrylucy2u@comcast.net">terrylucy2u@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td>Barbara O’Steen</td>
<td><a href="mailto:barbarajosteen@yahoo.com">barbarajosteen@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Helen St. John</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hbaker@uwashington.edu">hbaker@uwashington.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 11, 2009</td>
<td>VIEW RIDGE</td>
<td>Gail Winberg</td>
<td>6004 NE 60th St.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gail Winberg</td>
<td><a href="mailto:winbergeng@comcast.net">winbergeng@comcast.net</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bettina Hosler</td>
<td><a href="mailto:glencoe1985@aol.com">glencoe1985@aol.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, March 12, 2009</td>
<td>ISSAQUAH</td>
<td>Margaret Austin</td>
<td>Issaquah City Hall &amp; Police</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jocelyn Marchisio</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Jocelyn@marchisio.net">Jocelyn@marchisio.net</a></td>
<td>130 E Sunset Way - Coho Room (upstairs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jan Orlando</td>
<td><a href="mailto:orlanre@aol.com">orlanre@aol.com</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gail Shurgot</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gailshurgot@earthlink.net">gailshurgot@earthlink.net</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martha Jordan</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marty4lwv@yahoo.com">marty4lwv@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Juliet Beard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:juliet@windermerere.com">juliet@windermerere.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Slotnick</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mhslotnick@comcast.net">mhslotnick@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Marilyn Paulson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:marpaul@sprintmail.com">marpaul@sprintmail.com</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 18, 2009</td>
<td>UNIVERSITY HOUSE – WALLINGFORD</td>
<td>University House</td>
<td>4400 Stone Way N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Judy Bevington</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gbeving@eskimo.com">gbeving@eskimo.com</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 21, 2009</td>
<td>BALLARD/QUEEN ANNE/MAGNOLIA DAY</td>
<td>Magnolia Library</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joan Peterson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dsgerst@comcast.net">dsgerst@comcast.net</a></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shirley Gerstenberger</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dsgerst@comcast.net">dsgerst@comcast.net</a></td>
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## Board & Committee Contacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Executive Committee</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Directors</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Education Fund Board</th>
<th>Off-Board Positions</th>
<th>Committees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kitty Mahon</td>
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<td>Beatrice Crane</td>
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<td>Lisa Peterson</td>
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<td>Immigration Study Co-chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008–2010</td>
<td>2nd V.P. Program</td>
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<td>International Relations</td>
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<td>Christine Wood</td>
<td>2008–2009</td>
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<td>Port Study</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Privatization Study</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Karen Adair</td>
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### Off-Board Positions
- **CIS Coordinator**: Cynthia Howe (howe.john@comcast.net)
- **Fund Development**: Victoria Bennett (funddevelopment@seattlelwv.org)
- **Technology Oversight**: Karen Lahey (karen@laheyfamily.org)

### Committees
- **Civics Education**: Jaclyn Wall (speakingstrategies@hotmail.com)
- **Economics & Taxation**: Nora Leech (nleech2002@yahoo.com)
- **Education**: Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis (terrylucy2u@comcast.net)
- **Social Justice Committee**: Vanessa Soriano Power (vanessa.power@gmail.com)
- **Immigration Study Co-chair**: Annette Holcomb (anholc@earthlink.net)
- **Immigration Study Co-chair**: Barbara Reid (barbereid@yahoo.com)
- **International Relations**: Ellen Berg (ellenberg@msn.com)
- **Land Use**: Karen Kane (kanek@iopener.net)
- **Transportation**: Linnea Hirst (LWVquilter@comcast.net)
- **Port Study**: Linda Brown (brownlj@comcast.net)
- **Privatization Study**: Nora Leech (nleech2002@yahoo.com)
MARCH FORUM
WASHINGTON WOMEN’S SUFFRAGE AND THE ROLE OF SEATTLE-AREA WOMEN IN THE MOVEMENT

Speaker: Shanna Stevenson, Coordinator, Women’s History Consortium, Washington State Historical Society

☞ Thursday, March 5, 2009 ☞
7:30-9:00 p.m.
Get To Know League Dinner - 5:30 p.m.

Location:
St. Andrew’s Lutheran Church
148th Ave. SE, Bellevue

All forums are free and open to the public.