



The Kitsap

# Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

DECEMBER 2017

## Meet and Greet Our Elected Officials!

Join us for what we hope becomes an annual tradition for our League.

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 2  
**Time:** 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.  
**Where:** Island Lake Community Center  
1087 NW Island Lake Road, Poulsbo

**Invited Guests:** Kitsap Transit board members

The website, [www.kitsaptransit.com](http://www.kitsaptransit.com), provides some interesting reading! Did you know that Kitsap Transit is partly funded with 8/10 of 1% of sales tax, that it serves more than 4 million riders annually, that it has a Transit Development Plan for 2017-2022, and that it has slated over \$1 million to expand routed bus service? Now the Kitsap Transit Board is completing its "Proposed Revised Route Network" — you probably received its postcard with a schedule of public information-gathering events.

Would you like to learn about some of the outcomes of this research, and more about other projects managed and planned by the Kitsap Transit Board? If so, plan to attend this event at Island Lake Community Center (where we had our Annual Meeting).

Invited guests to our event include the full Kitsap Transit Board. Its members are: Rob Putaansuu, Mayor of Port Orchard, chair; Becky Erickson, Mayor of Poulsbo; County Commissioners Charlotte Garrido (SK) and Robert Gelder (NK)

and Edward E Wolfe (CK); Richard Huddy, City Councilmember, Bremerton; Patty Lent, Mayor of Bremerton; Ed Stern, City Councilmember, Poulsbo; Val Tollefson, Mayor of Bainbridge Island; and Mark Fuller, non-voting member, Secretary/Treasurer Teamsters 589.

We are very excited about this opportunity to converse with our Kitsap Transit Board members one-on-one. There also will be a moderated discussion of questions that our members have generated — these questions indicate a high level

of interest in transit issues among our members! We encourage you to invite your significant other and/or a prospective League member.

We'll also enjoy a delicious brunch catered by Ambrosia Catering. The cost is \$15/person. We need to receive payments or RSVPs by Tuesday, Nov. 28. Send checks to LWV Kitsap, P.O. Box 1524, Poulsbo, WA 98370.

If you find belatedly that you can attend, email Lydia Olsen at [olsenej@aol.com](mailto:olsenej@aol.com), and we'll accept payment at the door. — Lydia Olsen

### Kitsap League Board

<b>President</b> Myra Howrey	<b>Treasurer</b> Adrienne Davis
<b>1st Vice President</b> Lydia Olsen	<b>Secretary</b> Karen Faye
<b>2nd Vice President</b> Carol Larsen	<b>Voter Editor</b> Barb Willock

### Mark Your Calendar

#### DECEMBER

**Dec. 2,** Brunch with the Kitsap Transit Board, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., Island Lake Community Center.

**Dec. 2,** Board Meeting from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., community room of Hasel-

wood YMCA, 3909 NW Randall Way, Silverdale.

**Dec. 13,** Evening Unit, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., community room of Haselwood YMCA; contact Audrey Wolf. No other unit meetings in December

## President's Corner

Election season is over and it's time for all of us to thank our Voter Service committee and the many League and non-League volunteers who made it possible for us to have four Primary Election forums and six General Election forums as well and conduct 37 voter registration events throughout Kitsap County. We can't thank all our volunteers enough — and if I left anyone out in the lists below, my apologies.

### Candidate Forum volunteers

**North Kitsap volunteers:** Catherine Ahl, Carol Larsen, Ardis Morrow, Alice Millis, Helen Hoover, Pam Hamon, Audrey Wolf, Leni Skarin, Carolynn Zimmers, Barbara Paul, Meredith Green, Myra Howrey, students from the North Kitsap High School honor society, and Olympic College Running Start students.

**Bainbridge volunteers:** Maurie Louis, Ellen Fisher, Madelyn Fox, Lydia Olsen, Annette Maxson, Karen Faye and Michelle McClure.

**Bremerton and Port Orchard:** Kim Abel, Judy Friedberg-Nerf, Gail Sackman, Audrey Wolf, Connie Syapin, Ann

Strosnider, Shelley Kneip, Judy Arbogast, Barb Willock, Janet Stegemeyer, Susan Daniel, volunteer Gary Beanland, and Diana Sullivan from NAACP.

**Voter Registration project volunteers:** Pam Hamon, Judy Friedberg-Nerf, Jeannie Allen, Rhonda Fairgrieve, Shawn Northrup, Helen Hooper, Bobbie Vahey, Adrienne Davis, Carol Larsen, Gail Sackman, Alice Millis, Linda Moehring, Barbara Paul, Martha Burke, Suzanne Compton, Marianne Matson, Becky Drotz, Shirlee Clark, Sue Hughes, Connie Syapin, Janet Stegemeyer, Barb Willock, Shelley Kneip, Maurie Louis, Robin Muir, Kimi Kinoshita, Regina Hill, Betsy Cooper, Laurel Oliver, Rosalind Renouard, Jerri Eckmann and Michelle McClure.

For anyone interested in being part of the Observer Team, there will be a new observer training in January. For information, email Annette Maxson. This is a great chance to participate in seeing your government in action.

I hope to see many of you at our brunch with the Kitsap Transit Board on Dec. 2 at Island Lake Community Hall. Bring your appetites and good questions!  
Myra Howrey, LWVK President

## Starbucks Ballots & Baristas

Ready to engage interested voters, LWVK members Martha Burke and Alice Millis arrived prepared with informational handouts on the Kitsap Library Measure and the three Washington Advisory Votes to the Oct. 17 Starbucks Ballots & Baristas event at the Poulsbo Starbucks.

We interacted with several voters, three of whom were from out of county so we chatted about the Advisory Votes. One of those voters commuted from his job at the Port of Seattle to his home in Clallam County, often stopping at the Poulsbo Starbucks for a break on his long commute. We discussed Advisory Vote 18 as his wife is a teacher, and since Martha had the property tax increase for each of the Washington counties, she showed him the effect on his family.

In addition, Kitsap voters received charts listing both the support-

ing and opposing arguments for the Kitsap Library measure. Starbucks Associate Brooke on duty that night volunteered to see that all the other employees received the ballot information, too.

Both of us thought the interaction with voters was interesting. The change in Starbucks's clientele during our two-hour stint was intriguing. At first several high school students were lively customers, followed by two dads who came in to pick up their daughters; later people in their 20s worked diligently on their electronic devices, older customers ordered and left, and as 7 o'clock neared, the cafe was empty but the drive-thru was still busy.

We both feel that the Starbucks Ballots & Baristas event was worthwhile, recommending more and earlier advertising to pique interest for next year's ballot issues.

The LWVK thanks Lorah Thorton, manager of the Poulsbo Starbucks on Highway 305 for hosting the Ballots & Baristas night.

— Alice Millis

### Save the Date: Jan. 27, 2018

#### Redistricting Meeting

The League of Women Voters of Washington state has reviewed the work of three Washington state bipartisan Redistricting Commissions that were formed beginning in 1983 to draw congressional and state legislative district lines rather than allowing legislators to do so. The League is committed to a redistricting process that promotes a fair and effective representation at all levels of government with maximum opportunity for public participation. A report has been published describing our state's process with recommendations for potential short- and long-term actions to improve the system. The report will be presented on Jan. 27 from

10 a.m. to noon at the Suquamish Museum and from 2 to 4 p.m. at First Lutheran Church in Port Orchard. The report can be viewed on the LWVK website, [www.lwv-kitsap.org](http://www.lwv-kitsap.org). Watch for more detail in the January Voter.

#### New Photo Resource on Flickr

LWVUS has introduced a new Flickr site as an image resource to Leagues. LWV/US is in the process of uploading the best photos from League events around the nation, as well as a selection of historical images and social media graphics. Take a look here: [www.flickr.com/photos/leagueofwomenvoters/albums](http://www.flickr.com/photos/leagueofwomenvoters/albums).

If you have photos of League events that you would like to share with others, please email them to Annie Strosnider at [astrosnider@mac.com](mailto:astrosnider@mac.com). She can post them on our Facebook page and forward them to the Flickr site. You also may submit your League photos for consideration directly to [communications@lwv.org](mailto:communications@lwv.org).

#### Unit Meetings

There will be no unit meetings in December except:

**Evening Unit:** Meets in the community room of Haselwood YMCA in Silverdale; contact Audrey Wolf:  
Dec. 13 (Wednesday), 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Jan. 17, 2018 (Wednesday), 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
Feb. 21 (Wednesday), 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

## *Voter Registration Another League Success*

Our Kitsap League had another successful voter registration effort this year. Thirty-two members helped from June to October. On a regular schedule we registered at all of the Kitsap Regional Libraries, the Silverdale and Bremerton Goodwill Stores plus the Kitsap Mall in June. On National Voter Registration Day, we worked together with the Auditor's Office to reach out to students at Olympic College. Other individual sites included the ferries, the Suquamish Farmers Market, the Kingston Community Open House, PCHS/Salvation Army, Martha & Mary Nursing Home, and the Norm Dicks Center.

We registered a total of 145 people, which included returning filled out forms to the Auditor, handing out forms to take home, address changes and MY VOTE information on how to register on line. We handed out 64 website information sheets on where to go to find out about the truthfulness of news articles. Fifteen people took the ACLU brochure on how felons can automatically register to vote once they are out of the jurisdiction of the

Department of Corrections. Two men thought for 30 years that they could never vote — one was in tears.

Unfortunately, more than 202 people were simply not interested in voting. There were various reasons including: mistrust of the system; don't have time; my vote doesn't matter much; being afraid to vote; and simply not wanting to learn about issues and candidates.

However, we received plenty of kudos for the League and our efforts. One person gave us a \$5 donation and another sang "Sisters Suffragettes" from Mary Poppins to one of our volunteers.

If nothing else, our presence in the community was wonderful public relations for the League and for our efforts to educate the public on the importance of voting. We also handed out our TRYs and copies of the constitution that we bought half way through the registration period.

Congratulations and thanks to all of our volunteers! Many went the extra mile by giving of their time multiple times.

— Pam Hamon

## *Getting to Know Each Other*



Story and photos by Annie Strosnider

Left photo, Data Logan and Leaguer Judy Arbogast organized the event for the Kitsap County Council on Human Rights. They said it was so successful it may have to move to a larger space next year. Right, Jeannie Allen shows League materials to one of the attendees at the Social Justice Meet and Greet.

Our League participated in the Nov. 2 Social Justice Meet and Greet at the Eagle's Nest. Presented by the Kitsap County Council for Human Rights, it was a chance to meet people from 35 organizations, including Stand Up For Kids, NAACP Bremerton, Together We Rise (Women's March Kitsap), YWCA and many more.

### *Meet a New Member*

Marylin Olds is a political activist, currently "immersed in net neutrality, health care," and a project, which she is organizing, to ban plastic bags in North Kitsap County. She belongs to several active groups: North Kitsap and Bainbridge Island Indivisible, NK Resisterhood and Kitsap Progressive Action Network. Now

she adds the League to her list of activities, in part at the behest of her friend and LWVK member Carollyn Zimmers, who assures her there is much one learns while working with the League.

Marylin does research for opinion articles for the Kingston Community News, North Kitsap Herald and Central Kitsap Reporter. Some of Marylin's opinion pieces are available online at kitsap-

dailynews.com. Her previous two jobs were as a paralegal for a Seattle law firm and for the BI School District Capital Projects. Also, she has sold books at the Port Townsend Antique mall for the last 15 years.

Marylin, who is recently widowed, moved to Kitsap County with her husband in 1988. She has two sons and four grandchildren.

League of Women Voters  
of Kitsap County, WA  
P.O. Box 1524  
Poulsbo, WA 98370



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**DECEMBER 2017 Voter**

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***Board Snippets***  
— 11/04

1. Ann Strosnider and Karen Faye were appointed as the board representatives to the Nominating Committee.
2. The updated Member Directory should be published soon.
3. Arrangements for the Nov. 18 meeting on Homelessness and the Dec. 2 meeting with the Kitsap Transit Board are complete.
4. The board decided to have our Program Planning meeting in January and the forum on property taxes in February.
5. There will be two combined unit meetings (NK/BI and CK/SK) for the purpose of presenting the LWV/WA Redistricting Report.
6. The report from the Water Committee will be in April.
7. Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 16 at Island Lake Community Hall.

***“Oktoberfest” — League of Women Voters Style***

Even though this year's ballot was relatively short since it did not contain any citizen initiatives (the first time since 1985 in Washington), our annual general meeting on ballot issues was enjoyable and informative.

League members clearly appreciated the opportunity to visit among each other, and over a delicious “Oktoberfest” themed lunch, to hear about and discuss ballot topics.

North Kitsap unit member Alice Millis presented her findings about the history of advisory votes in our state and some facts about the three measures on this year's ballot. We learned that they have little to no influence on legislation.

Director of Kitsap Regional Libraries Jill Jean then spoke about the proposed levy lid lift on the ballot and stressed that its passage was essential to maintaining current library service levels, and she explained some of the trends in library usage.

Our third speaker, Martha Burke, also from the North Kitsap unit, had an interesting slide presentation about last year's successful Initiative 735. This initiative urges the Washington State congressional delegation to propose a joint resolution for an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which acknowledges that the rights in the Constitution are for individuals only, that spending money is not free speech, and that all governments are allowed to regulate political contributions and expenditures.

Martha will be part of an LWVWA committee which is developing a plan of action to find out what progress is being made toward satisfying the terms of I-735. We look forward to more information on this topic after the committee has completed their research.

All-in-all, a most rewarding event. “It was especially fun to have a chance to chat with members of units outside our own,” an attendee commented. — Lydia Olsen and Kim Abel