



Kitsap League Board

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Public Meeting on Immigration

Immigration is a hot topic during this election year. What do we need to know about immigration as it pertains to Kitsap County and how does it affect our communities and schools? Martitha May is the Executive Director of the Kitsap Immigration Assistance Center. The center provides family and legal assistance including dental and health clinics, family unification services and a myriad of other services for immigrants. It also provides English language classes and citizenship assistance. Martitha and a colleague will present an overview of its services, steps to citizenship, and demographics of the population they serve.

There also will be a time for questions and answers.

What: League of Women Voters/Kitsap public meeting on immigration

Date: Nov. 16

Time: 9:30 a.m. to noon

Where: Eagles Nest, 1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton

Info: Gail Sackman for information

Mark Your Calendar

NOVEMBER

Nov. 5: Board meeting, 10 a.m.; location to be determined

Nov. 9: League 101, 10 a.m., Poulsbo Coffee Oasis; contact Pam Hamon for information

Nov. 9: South Kitsap unit meeting, 9 a.m., Coffee Oasis (upstairs), 807 Bay St., Port Orchard; contact Adrienne Davis for information

Nov. 11: Central Kitsap unit meeting, 9:30 a.m., Coffee Oasis, Naval Avenue, Bremerton; contact Phyllis Mann for information

Nov. 15: League 101, 10 a.m., Coffee Oasis, 807 Bay St., Port Orchard; contact Pam Hamon for information

Nov. 16: Public Meeting on Immigration issues, 9:30 a.m. to noon, Eagles Nest, 1195 NW Fairgrounds Road, Bremerton; contact Gail Sackman for information

Nov. 23: North Kitsap unit meeting, 10 a.m., Poulsbo Library; contact Pam Hamon for information

Save the Date — Dec. 14

December 14 – Suquamish Clearwater Casino tour, lunch and presentation by Russell Steele of Port Madison Enterprises on the various tribal businesses and other tribal outreach.

Invite your spouse or a friend to this fun, social event.

What: Suquamish Clearwater Casino Tour/Lunch

Date: Dec. 16

Time: 10:30 a.m., tour; 11:45 a.m., lunch; 12:15 p.m., presentation

Where: 15347 Suquamish Way NE, Suquamish

Cost: \$16; mail check to reserve your spot to LWV/K, P.O. Box 1524, Poulsbo, WA 98370 by Dec. 5 (earlier is better)

Directions: On entering the casino grounds, turn right to the west parking garage. Park on the second level. Looking south toward the water, at the left corner is the walkway to the entrance of the New Hotel Tower Addition. We will gather there in the hotel lobby at 10:30 a.m. for the tour. Those wanting to skip the tour can still go there and be directed to our meeting room next to the buffet, or go to it by way of the casino.

## President's Corner

Nov. 8 is around the corner and our Voter Service work is almost complete. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who worked so diligently on our Voter Service committee this year.

For Voter Registration, humongous thanks go to Pam Hamon and Maurie Louis for organization, to Lydia Olsen for coordinating efforts at the libraries, to the following members who staffed the more than 19 registration locations around the county from April through October. All Kitsap League members thank Pam, Maurie, and Lydia along with Helen Hoover, Virginia Richter, Eloise Andrus, Carol Larsen, Adrienne Davis, Ann Strosnider, Bev Goodman, Alice Millis, Karen Faye, Laurel Oliver, Rosalind Renouard, Roeliena Van Zanten, Kim Abel, Gail Sackman, Bobbie Vahey, Susan Daniel, Ardis Morrow, Carol Haskins and Connie Waddington. You will see a more detailed report of their efforts elsewhere in this Voter, but it's safe to say that this was a very successful effort.

By the time you read this issue of the Voter, forums will either be almost over or just ended. Kim Abel has done a fabulous job coordinating this effort, along with forum moderators Catherine Ahl, Ann Smith and Phyllis Mann. Other League volunteers who helped with the myriad other tasks involved in making the forums successful are: Ann Strosnider, Sue Hughes, Susan Daniel, Janet Stegemeyer, Judy Friedberg Nerf, Judy Arbogast, Maurie Louis, Carol Larsen, and Carol Haskins.

If anyone's name is left out of either the Voter Registration volunteer list or the Forum volunteer list, we are so sorry! None of this work could

have been accomplished without the dedicated service of all of you.

November 16 will be our Public Meeting on the topic of Immigration issues at the Eagles Nest, Kitsap County Fairgrounds, from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Our speaker will be Martitha May, the executive director of the Kitsap Immigration Assistance Center. This looks to be an interesting and informative meeting, so please plan on attending.

Save the date! On Dec. 14, we will gather at the Suquamish Clearwater Casino to have lunch and learn about the various tribal businesses from Russell Steele of Port Madison Enterprises. There will be a tour before lunch and our speaker. The cost for lunch will be \$16 and your check for your reservation needs to be mailed to P.O. Box 1524, Poulsbo, WA 98370 by Dec. 5. Hope to see you there!

Some of the topics we have planned for 2017 include our yearly Program Planning, the update on how the Civics Education requirement is being implemented, Homelessness, and Law Enforcement in the 21st Century.

Interested in the Civics Education requirement and how county school districts are complying? If you would like to be part of a committee to visit your local school district to do this research and report back to the membership, please contact Catherine Ahl.

We have some members who have not yet paid their dues. I want to remind everyone that we want to update our Member Directory as soon as we can, but have been delayed until we know our final membership count. Your \$60 helps support the operations of the Kitsap League, and remember that out of your \$60 dues amount, \$19 is paid as dues to the LWV/Washington and \$30 is paid as dues to the LWV/US. Myra Howrey, LWV/K President

## Voter Registration



Photo by Annie Strosnider

Congratulations and a BIG thank you to all the Leaguers (22 in number!) who volunteered their time to help with our voter registration effort. A few of them gave an exceptional amount of time which kept the program going from April to October. We registered 286 voters, changed addresses for 76, gave out website information to 96 people, and gave the right to vote brochure to 11 former felons. We set up tables in 19 locations for a total of 30 times. Unfortunately, we documented at least 89 people who weren't interested in voting. Now we hope all those who are registered WILL VOTE.

## North Kitsap Unit

The NK unit members that met at our September meeting decided to move our meetings on the 4th Wednesdays to the Poulsbo Library.

So our November meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 23 at the upstairs meeting room in the Poulsbo Library at 10 a.m. We decided for the time being we would not invite speakers, but we are open to any ideas that unit members would like to propose. We always have a good discussion so I encourage NK Unit members to join us.

## Civics Committee

The Civics Committee is reforming and will be focusing on how our local high schools are meeting the new legislative mandate to require civics education on our schools. Please contact Catherine Ahl if you are interested in being part of this committee.

## Board Snippets — 10/8/16

1. The board is researching Silverdale locations for board meetings.
2. We have a new MLD (Membership, Leadership Development) coach, Lynn Busacca from LWV/Mason County.
3. We have about 20 members with unpaid dues. Unit leaders will be contacting them.
4. The Sept. 17 field trip to the County Commissioners meeting was quite successful.
5. November meeting will be on the subject of Immigration.
6. December meeting will be at the Suquamish Clearwater Casino.
7. Voter Registration efforts are complete and

it was a very successful year. Report will be in the November Voter.

8. October general election forums are underway. League members are encouraged to attend. Volunteers still are needed.

9. November Voter deadline is Oct. 15.

## LWV 101

Because we have several new members the LWV 101 Team decided to set up two sessions in November for not only our new members but any member who wants to learn more about League. It's a good time to better understand the LWV and to ask questions as well as meet other members. Our first session will be Wednesday, Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Poulsbo Coffee Oasis across from the Library and our second session will be Tuesday, Nov. 15 at the Port Orchard Coffee Oasis, 807 Bay St., at 10 a.m. If these times and dates are not good for any member, please let Carol Larsen or Pam Hamon know so we can try to accommodate.

## September's Field Trip: County Commissioners' Meeting

County Treasurer Meredith Green and League members met for lunch at Cosmo's Deli in Port Orchard. Meredith briefed us on the County's

See Meeting on Page 3

## Membership and Leadership Development Program

The Membership and Leadership Development (MLD) program was initiated by the LWV/US to provide local Leagues with proven resources, techniques and support for membership growth and leadership development. Each local League in the state has been assigned a coach to work with on these issues. LWV/Kitsap has been assigned a new coach — Lynn Busacca from the Mason County League, who will be working with Gail Sackman and other League members on the monthly coaching calls.

Lynn is co-chair of Member Services for the Mason County

League. Her professional and volunteer lives have been devoted to nonprofit work, with the primary focus of community-based education, volunteer management and advocacy. This includes teaching pre-school, starting a rape-crisis center, counseling at Planned Parenthood, assisting low-income adults achieve their educational goals, and managing volunteers in a workplace literacy project.

In 2007, and after 16 years, she retired as executive director of Mason County Literacy, an adult literacy organization that she helped establish.

## Action Workshops: Get Ready for Action!

This year the League of Women Voters of Washington is pleased to present four Action Workshops, making it easier for you to attend and get in on the action. These workshops cover LWVWA advocacy priorities for the upcoming legislative session and will give you an opportunity to:

Help flex our political muscle in Olympia.

- Get the inside scoop on what to expect for the upcoming legislative session.
- Learn about critical issues facing our state, including funding education, protecting voting rights, and fighting climate change.
- Discuss the issues of greatest interest to you.
- Network with other knowledgeable advocates.
- Gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to be a more effective, powerful advocate for the issues you care about.

The three workshops in our area are Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.: Nov. 12 in Lynnwood; Nov. 19 in Tacoma; and Dec. 10 in Seattle.

Workshops are open to the public. You not need not be a League member to participate. Registration fee of \$25 includes lunch, coffee and all workshop materials. If you have any questions contact Kathy Sakahara, ksakahara@lwvwa.org, 206-261-7797. Registration and information coming soon on the LWV/WA website: [www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org).

### Calendar

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**Nov. 30:** Bainbridge unit meeting, 2 to 4 p.m., home of Rosalind Renouard, 824 Madison Ave. N.; contact Maurie Louis for information

**Dec. 3:** Board meeting, 10 a.m., location to be determined

**Dec. 14:** Meet at Suquamish Clearwater Casino for lunch and presentation by Russell Steele, Port Madison Enterprises; contact Lydia Olsen for information

## Meet Our Newest Members

■ **Bobbie Vahey** of Port Orchard joined League after Adrienne Davis introduced her to the South Kitsap unit. Pam Hamon had encouraged her to join in the past. She had been “on the fringe” of politics for some time and felt it was time for her to do something locally to support the League and the process of voting. She has lived in Kitsap since 1972 and retired after a career in teaching. She taught special education and primary grades for 35 years, including nine years at Frances Haddon Morgan Center in Bremerton. She and her husband, Bob, have five children, 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

*“I just joined as a direct result of the debate last night. I want better ways to support our system of government, learn about the issues, and encourage everyone to vote. Thank you for being there ahead of me.”*

*-- Joanna Baas's post on Facebook after joining League of Women Voters/Kitsap on Oct. 10*

■ **Joanna Baas**, who lives in Ilahee in Bremerton, said she was deeply disturbed by the lack of civility in the second presidential debate.

“Ad hominem attacks and diversionary statements are applauded,” she wrote in a thoughtful Facebook post. “Direct questions from real people are not answered.”

She took to her Twitter account to express her concerns but felt a need to do more than vent on social media.

An IT analyst who works for Liberty Mutual in Seattle, Joanna describes herself as the kind of person who asks what she can do to make things better. She had long known about League but now sought it out as a place to fulfill her desire to make our citizen participation in government less partisan and more driven by knowledge and careful consideration than by “confirmation bias.”

Joanna grew up in Illinois and has lived in Wisconsin and New York as well as Seattle. She moved to Kitsap in 2006 after marrying her husband, Mike, who had a house here. She has one son who lives in Atlanta.

### Commissioners

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budget process using her office’s presentation as an example. We learned about the fund structure, differences between the General Fund that includes Law and Justice (70%), Misc. Administration (22%), Parks (5%), Facilities Maintenance (2%) and Coroner (1%) and as an example, the Special Revenue Fund that includes Roads, Mental Health and Community Development and comprises 38% of the total budget.

Meredith offered tours of Courthouse departments for those interested. We attended the afternoon budget presentation of the Health District. The District recently changed its administrative structure and eliminated positions. Some services are being moved to Planned Parenthood for a savings of \$200,000.

The Field Trip was an eye opening experience and enjoyed by all who participated.

## Unit Meetings

Be sure to check with your unit leader for any schedule changes.

**Bainbridge Island:** 4th Wednesday of the month from 2 to 4 p.m. at different members’ homes; contact Maurie Louis.

**North Kitsap:** 4th Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. at Poulsbo Library, upstairs meeting room; contact Pam Hamon.

**Central Kitsap:** 3rd Friday of the month at 9:30 a.m. at Coffee Oasis on Naval Avenue in Bremerton; contact Phyllis Mann.

**South Kitsap:** 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9 a.m. at Coffee Oasis (upstairs) in Port Orchard; contact Adrienne Davis.

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



***FORWARDING & RETURNING POSTAGE GUARANTEED  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED***

**NOVEMBER 2016 Voter**

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- ▶ President’s Corner
- ▶ MLD Programs and New Coach
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- ▶ New Member Bios

*Clip & Mail*  
**Membership Levels**

<p>_____ <b>\$60 Basic Membership</b></p> <p>_____ <b>\$90 Household Membership</b>  (2 or more members at the same address)</p> <p>_____ <b>\$110 Carrie Chapman Catt Member</b>  (founder of League of Women Voters)</p> <p>_____ <b>\$160 Jo Huey Member</b>  (first president of LWV/K)</p> <p>_____ <b>Donation to Education Fund</b>  (only donations to the Education fund  are tax-deductible)</p> <p>_____ <b>\$30 Student Membership</b>  (includes State and National Membership)</p> <p>_____ <b>Additional donation</b> to support your  local Kitsap League  (Full or partial scholarships are available upon request.)</p>	<p><b>NAME</b> _____</p> <p><b>ADDRESS</b> _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p><b>EMAIL</b> _____</p> <p><b>PHONE</b> _____</p>
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I want to receive my Voter (newsletter)  
by \_\_\_\_\_ email or \_\_\_\_\_ regular mail.

Please make checks payable to LWV/Kitsap.  
Mail to: League of Women Voters/Kitsap  
P.O. Box 1524  
Poulsbo, WA 98370

**NOTE: Dues are payable in July. Members  
are notified well in advance.**