



The Kitsap

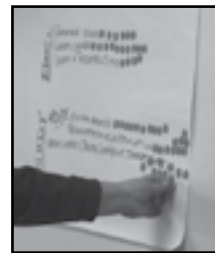
Voter

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KITSAP

JANUARY 2020

Program Planning

Come help us shape League's work for 2020-21



League members vote for their top projects at last year's Program Planning meeting in January.

When: Wednesday, Jan. 29
Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Where: Poulsbo Library
700 NE Lincoln Road
(large meeting room, lower level)
Light lunch provided
For details, see story on Page 3

LWVUS Mission and Vision Statements

Mission Statement:
Empowering voters.
Defending
democracy.

Vision Statement:
We envision a
democracy where
every person has
the desire, the right,
the knowledge and
the confidence
to participate.

Mark Your Calendar

JANUARY

Jan. 1, Plastic bag ban begins. Retailers in unincorporated Kitsap County, cities of Bremerton and Port Orchard are prohibited from offering thin plastic carryout bags to customers at checkout. Retailers in Silverdale (an unincorporated area) also are covered by the ban.

Jan. 4, Kitsap League is sponsoring an Action Workshop, 9 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at Village Green Community Center in Kingston in advance of the upcoming 2020 state legislative session. General admission is

See CALENDAR on Page 3

Register NOW to Make YOUR Voice Heard in Olympia

The last LWV Action Workshop before the 2020 Legislative Session begins is happening in just a few weeks right here in Kitsap County. The deadline for registration for the Jan. 4 Action Workshop is Friday, Dec. 27. With the passage of I-976 severely limiting funding for many transportation projects, including mass transit like ferries and local bus services, it is essential to advocate now for changes to Washington's upside down (i.e. regressive) tax structure. See ACTION on Page 4

President's Corner

Want to Help with the Census? Become an 'Ambassador'

Every time I think LWV Kitsap has done a remarkable program that will be hard to equal, another well-done event takes place! Our December Meet & Greet was packed with information about the impacts of continuing growth described in the Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2050 plan. Local officials who participated were well-informed and thoughtful, the food provided by the Culinary Arts students of Olympic College was delicious, and the visiting around the tables during brunch was lively. Thanks to Martha Burke and Maureen Cervinsky for an impressive program.



Leni Skarin

Another large project lies ahead for League volunteers in the new year. Census Day on April 1 will be very different because the count will mostly be done by residents self-reporting online. There also are many who have never participated in a census before who will have to navigate the process of being counted. Because the census is vital to fair representation and effective delivery of government services, the League of Women Voters' national team is supporting every League across the country to help everyone get counted. The League's census work will be in three phases: 1) Education; 2) Get Out to Count Activities; 3) Watchdog reporting.

In January, LWV Kitsap will offer training to "Census Ambassadors" — volunteers who will become informed about the census process and who will share that information as part of a massive program of public education. There will be two trainings early in the month, and requests for more at later dates and locations are welcome. Trainings are scheduled for 1) Thursday, Jan. 9, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Poulsbo Fire Department, 911 NE Liberty Road and 2) Monday, Jan. 13, as the second hour of the South Kitsap Unit meeting, from 11 a.m. to noon at the Port Orchard Library, 87 Sidney Ave. in Port Orchard. At the trainings we will have sign-up sheets for being a Census Ambassador on Census Saturdays at various locations of the Kitsap Regional Library and possibly other community or public buildings in February and early March.

The Kitsap Complete Count Committee for the census will offer another phase of training later in January for those who want to help with the second step of "Get Out to Count" activities. This training will prepare volunteers to assist individuals in being prepared to answer the questions on the census form and in actually navigating on the census form portal online. This phase begins after the census portal opens on March 12 and continues through April. Details about locations with online access and times when volunteers will be needed will be available at a later date on the Kitsap 2020 Census website.

Please contact me, Lydia Olsen or Pam Hamon if you are interested in being a Census Ambassador so you can receive information by email.

Leni Skarin
LWVK Co-President

Upcoming Program

Prepare to Celebrate LWVUS 100th Anniversary

Our League will celebrate the Centennial of the League of Women Voters with a potluck brunch on Wednesday, Feb. 26, at Island Lake Community Building in Poulsbo. We look forward to hearing from Amy Peloff during our brunch. You may know Amy as the administrator for the state League. She also is "... a feminist historian and media studies scholar. She is an Affiliate Faculty in the Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies and the former Assistant Director of the Comparative History of Ideas Program at the University of Washington." Stay tuned for further information about the brunch in the February Voter.

Unit/Committee News

Bremerton/CK Unit: Meets Saturday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m. to noon, at United Way, 645 4th St., Bremerton. We plan to discuss our recommendations for LWVK 2020-21 program and review the LWVUS proposed Concurrence on Electoral Systems (<https://www.lwv.org/>

league-management/proposed-concurrence-electoral-systems). In February, our Unit will resume meeting on the 3rd Saturday of the month. For information, contact Maureen Cervinsky.

SK Unit: Meets Monday, Jan. 13, 10 a.m. to noon at the Port Orchard Library. We plan to spend the first hour on unit leadership and honing our ideas for local League Program Planning. Leni Skarin will join us during the second hour for Census training. Adrienne Davis has announced she is stepping down as unit leader. If you are interested in being a unit leader, or maybe co-leader, please let Ann Strosnider know.

NK Unit: Meets Wednesday, Jan. 22, 10 a.m. to noon at the Poulsbo Library.

Program

LWVK Program Committee meets on the 2nd (Jan. 15) and 4th (Jan. 28) Tuesdays of the month at the Kitsap Tennis and Athletic Club, 1909 NE John Carlson Road, Bremerton. We plan to discuss the Jan. 29 Program Planning General Meeting and plan for the Feb. 26 LWV

100th Anniversary Celebration and the March 28 public education program on the current and future state of solid waste management and recycling in Kitsap County. You are invited to join us in this important work. For information, contact Maureen Cervinsky.

Housing

The winter weather is upon us, and the Severe Weather Shelters soon will be open. LWVK is pleased to again donate hygiene kits for our homeless neighbors. Some kits contain items specifically for women and some contain items for men. The Housing Committee continues to collect unused, small toiletry items for placement in the kits. In addition, warm socks are the number one item needed by our homeless neighbors. Please continue to donate items for these kits. Any member of the Housing Committee can collect your donation. Contact either Connie Syapin or Rochelle Karlsen with questions.

Working with Youth

Coffee Oasis: We still are looking for volunteers to go once a month to Poulsbo and Port

See COMMITTEES on Page 4

Get Your Ideas Ready for Program Planning

January is shaping up to be yet another busy month. In addition to the Action Workshop on Jan. 4 and Lobby Day in Olympia on Jan. 21, LWV Kitsap will host its annual Program Planning general meeting from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 29, at the Poulsbo Library. The purpose of this event is for all members to gather together and share ideas about what our League might want to work on in the 2020-21 League year. We call this the Program of Work.

As you think about possible ideas, please keep two things in mind about 2020: It's a big election year, and it will mark the 100th anniversary of women winning the right to vote in the United States. In addition to the presidential election, we will have elections for two county commissioners as well as for governor and other statewide offices, congressional representatives, judges, state representatives and some state senators.

In addition, consider these questions:

- How much member interest is there in the issue?
- Is this a crucial time for the issue?
- Will the League's involvement make a unique impact?
- Will it increase the League's visibility?
- Will this action or program engage League mem-

bers and the larger community? Might it help us attract new members?

- Are there people willing to help out with this project?

We ask that local units and committees who have program ideas forward them to Ann Strosnider and Leni Skarin by Jan. 15. This way, we will be able to share them with members ahead of the Jan. 29 meeting. We also will take suggestions from the floor at the meeting. All attending members will have a chance to vote on the proposed ideas. That vote will help inform board members about the most popular ideas from the meeting as they make their decisions about what to send on to our Annual Meeting.

Carol Larsen, membership chair and local B&B operator, has generously offered to provide a light lunch of bread, soup and salad. A few board members will bring desserts. Everyone else, just bring yourselves and your ideas.

In addition to local planning, we are asked to review the LWVUS proposed Concurrence on Electoral Systems (www.lwv.org/league-management/proposed-concurrence-electoral-systems). All program ideas should be in keeping with League positions. For local positions, see our website, www.lwv-kitsap.org, under About Us; for national positions, see [lwvus](http://lwvus.org) and for state positions, [lwvwa](http://lwvwa.org).

Board Tidbits: 12/07/19

1. Bondy bequest: We have received word on the amount of the Elisabeth Bondy bequest although we have not received the funds yet. The amount is \$22,250.61. Once we have the money in hand, we will begin a discussion about how best to use and/or invest it. If you have ideas, please send them to Ann Strosnider or Leni Skarin. For newer members, Elisabeth was a highly respected longtime member who died Jan. 4, 2019. She was kind enough to remember us in her will.

2. Board changes: Adrienne Davis has decided to step down as treasurer, and Karen Faye was appointed to take over the treasurer's

role. Karen had been serving as secretary, and Barbara Paul agreed to take on that job. The board voted approval of both changes. These positions will be up for election at our Annual Meeting, as outlined in our bylaws.

3. January meeting: We will have

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\$30 and includes lunch and all materials; register online at lwvwa.org.

Jan. 9, Census Ambassador training, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Poulsbo Fire Department, 911 NE Liberty Road

Jan. 11, Bremerton/CK Unit meeting, 10 a.m. to noon, United Way, 645 4th St., Bremerton; discuss our recommendations for LWVK 2020-21 program and review the LWVUS proposed Concurrence on Electoral Sys-

tem (www.lwv.org/league-management/proposed-concurrence-electoral-systems).

our January board meeting on Jan. 18 since our Action Workshop in Kingston falls on our usual day. Ann will check with Barb to make sure we can meet at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Bremerton.

4. Board agreed to look into ways

to provide education to League members and the general public about the March 10 Presidential Primary. Maurie is working on preparing questions for Daryl Daus, chief deputy county auditor, for a possible interview to be filmed at BKAT.

Jan. 13, SK Unit meeting, 10 a.m. to noon, Port Orchard Library; develop program planning ideas in the first hour and Census Ambassador training in the second hour

Jan. 14, Program Planning meets, 1 to 3 p.m., KTAC, 1909 John Carlson Road NE, Bremerton

Jan. 16, Voter registration at local high schools

Jan. 21, Democracy Lobby Day in Olympia, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; register at lwvwa.org

Jan. 22, NK Unit meeting, 10 a.m., Poulsbo Library

Jan. 28, Program Committee meets, 1 to 3 p.m., KTAC, 1909 John Carlson Road NE, Bremerton

Jan. 29, Program Planning meeting for all Kitsap members, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Poulsbo Library downstairs meeting room, 700 NE Lincoln Road; focus on local program ideas for next year; with light lunch and desserts; bring ideas and enthusiasm.

ON THE WEB

Find our local League news, meeting notices, publications, and reminders on our Facebook page or website, www.lwv-kitsap.org. Be sure to 'like' us on Facebook.

ACTION
From Page 1

The keynote speaker for the morning is Andy Nicholas, Senior Fellow at the Budget & Policy Center, where he specializes in state budget and tax policy. The topic for his presentation is “Why Fair and Adequate Revenue is Essential.” In addition to his analysis of effective progressive tax policies, Andy will explain why racial justice can be positively impacted by tax reform.

Other speakers featured will be State Sen. Emily Randall of the 26th Legislative District and LWVWA lobbyists Pam Crone and Nancy Shapiro. In the afternoon, participants can choose three breakout sessions led by the volunteer issue chairs who focus on specific bills



Andy Nicholas



Sen. Emily Randall

in the upcoming legislative session related to their issue.

Register now for the Action Workshop. The \$30 registration fee includes lunch and all materials. There is a reduced rate of \$10 for those younger than 24. A limited number of scholarships are available if the registration fee would be a barrier to your participation. In addition, the LWV Kitsap Action Workshop planning committee needs helpers. Contact Leni Skarin if you are able to help with things such as set up or clean up or if you can shuttle passengers to and from the Kingston ferry.

Register Online: Kingston Action Workshop, Jan 4, 2020, 9 a.m., at Village Green Community Center.

Meet Our New Members

Membership Chair Carol Larsen reports that we now have 180 members. Here are two of them explaining why they joined in their own words:

Evelyn Schwerin, Kingston:

I have always been interested in politics and enjoyed registering people to vote with Martha Burke. I believe I will enjoy doing that again with the LWV.

Amy C. Roszak, Poulsbo:

I was asked to share about how I came to be interested in joining the League. The short answer is that the League stands for "Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy," but that explains why I value the League, not why I joined.

I've always been politically active from the age of 15 when I was phone-banking for the 1972 presidential GOTV campaign, through the last election when I door-belled for a legislator running outside of my voting district. As a young child in the '60s, I remember hearing about the League of Women Voters from my mom and her friends. Several years ago, in my community troubled by recent events at the high school, the League hosted a series of suicide awareness and prevention discussions in which my daughter and I participated. As a voter, I always research issues and candidates, and have depended on the LWV to present clear explanations of ballot measures as well as of its positions. I also appreciate, value and depend upon the League's missions and actions of promoting active participation in government such as by registering new voters; of encouraging an informed electorate such as by providing educational opportunities through community forums and online resources; and of lobbying for voter protection issues such as campaign finance reform, all while generally remaining non-partisan on candidates.

But it was not until last month when the League hosted the community forum, “A Report Card on Sheltering Kitsap County Homeless Residents” that I became a member of the League of Women Voters of Kitsap County. I joined not only because the forum was incredibly informative (which it was), or because it was well developed, well planned, and well executed (which it was), or because in addition to presenting statistics and background information, there were well-spoken panelists to present a range of current and potential opportunities (which there were), but my husband and I joined because following the forum, a woman handed me a pamphlet about the League and asked me to consider joining. When I realized there was no good answer to why I would say “no,” my husband and I became members ...

COMMITTEES

From Page 2

Orchard Coffee Oasis. The idea is to interact with the youth about the importance of participating in our community, especially voting. Sometimes it's just going to listen to their stories and showing that we, as members of the community, are interested in them. Contact Pam Hamon if you want to help.

Voter Registration

We will be going into the high schools on Temperance and Good Citizenship Day, Jan. 16, to register students to vote. We

will be in most high schools over the lunch hours.

Because the Presidential Primary is coming up on March 10, we want to set up some places to register voters in January and February. Rather than going to the libraries, I'm hoping we can go to the Goodwills and other locations such as Fishlines, food banks, Helplines and other places where those who are less likely to be registered might be. We may also be registering in areas where we will be helping with the census.

Contact Pam Hamon to help.

Meet & Greet Update

Our Dec. 7 Meet & Greet brought about 63 members and guests to Olympic College to learn about the Puget Sound Regional Council's Vision 2050.



Photos by Susan Daniel

At top, County Commissioner Charlotte Garrido addresses the group who attended the Dec. 7 Meet & Greet event at Olympic College. Above, Martha Burke (at the podium) and Maureen Cervinsky were the main organizers of the Meet & Greet. Our speakers included, from left, County Commissioner Charlotte Garrido at the podium, County Commissioner Ed Wolfe, Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, Bainbridge Mayor Koi Medina, Kitsap Transit Director John Clauson, Bremerton Mayor Greg Wheeler, Suquamish Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman and Port of Bremerton Commissioner Cary Bozeman.

What We're Reading

LWVK once again is offering a peek into what we're reading. Here is what a member is reading:

■ **"Virtual Unreality,"** by Charles Seife.

Charles Seife, journalist and professor at NYU, describes internet manipulations involving scams, spam, fake identities, false information and the threat to good journalism in this title recommended by Di Zhang. KRL has nine copies that can be checked out. After reading and discussing it, Bremerton/CK LWV members are more deeply skeptical of internet information but have some new guidelines for using it. We recommend it for other groups. — Janice McLemore

Let us know what your suggestions are ... we want to continue sharing our love of reading to the rest of our League.



LWV Kitsap Committees and Current Chairs

- Action Workshop Planning – Leni Skarin
- Centennial Celebration — Catherine Ahl
- Civics — Catherine Ahl
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion — Jeannie Allen
- Early Childhood Education — Rosalind Renouard
- Health Care — Jessica Guidry
- Housing — Rochelle Karlsen and Connie Syapin
- Program — Maureen Cervinsky
- Publicity — Maurie Louis
- Voter Registration and Get Out the Vote — Pam Hamon
- Candidate Forums – In need of a leader
- Water — Betsy Cooper
- Website — Maurie Louis

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



JANUARY 2020 Voter

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LWV Kitsap Board

Co-Presidents

Ann Strosnider and Leni Skarin

1st Vice President

Maureen Cervinsky

2nd Vice President

Carol Larsen

Treasurer

Karen Faye

Secretary

Barbara Paul

Voter Editor

Barb Willock

Position 1

Vacant

Position 2

Martha Burke

Position 3

Gail Sackman

Position 5

Vacant

Position 6

Maurie Louis

Regularly Scheduled Events/Meetings

Unit Meetings

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

Bainbridge Island: Usually the 4th Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, Bainbridge Island Library; contact Rosalind Renouard or Madelyn Fox

Bremerton/CK: 3rd Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, United Way of Kitsap, 645 4th St., Bremerton; contact Maureen Cervinsky

North Kitsap: 4th Wednesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, Poulsbo Library; contact Pam Hamon

South Kitsap: 2nd Monday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, Port Orchard Library; contact Ann Strosnider

Board Meetings

The board meets the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 700 Callahan Drive, Bremerton. All League members are welcome. Contact Ann Strosnider or Leni Skarin