

## **LWV-Kitsap Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting Notes--Saturday, May 21, 2022 via Zoom**

Present: Maureen Cervinsky, Candy Rankin, Kathleen Gallagher, Debi Barner, Kathleen Cahall, Pat Troxell, Janice McLemore, Connie Marchant, Suzanne Schreiner, Rande Gjerstad

We welcomed new member Suzanne and visitor Rande, hearing a little about each of them and we all introduced ourselves and shared a little of our backgrounds. Congratulations followed to the new Board members from our unit:

Debi Barner, Pat Troxell & Victoria Hilt 🙌

Pat shared that it was disappointing to learn that the LWVWA Council in Everett will have no digital component, preventing those with disabilities from attending. This is the first time in two years that the LWVWA Council has met in person.

Candy gave a short summary of the May 9 Voter Services Committee meeting. The committee is in a transition phase, with co-chairs Colette Crosby and Alicia Vause stepping back from their leadership roles because they plan to be involved politically this election season. Pam Hamon & Julie Shryock graciously volunteered to coordinate upcoming meeting dates & times and will be calling on all committee members to offer to take on various projects. Alicia will continue to update voter materials for this election season. She will let us know when they are ready & arrange with unit leaders/representatives to pick them up.

Our unit will again be active in several Get Out the Vote activities. Maureen screen shared a calendar she drew up with dates for upcoming events & several members signed up to help out--thank you! The calendar is also available on the Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit's webpage: go to [www.lwv-kitsap.org](http://www.lwv-kitsap.org), click on About Us, scroll down to Units, and to the Bremerton/CK unit webpage.

**Please review these dates and where you're signed up to be sure all is accurate. Send an email to Candy ( [rankinbc@comcast.net](mailto:rankinbc@comcast.net) ) if you wish to sign up or make a change. The sign holding dates still have several open slots.**

### **BREMERTON FARMERS MARKET (Evergreen Park--Maureen & John will do set-up & takedown)**

<b><u>Thursday, July 14, 3:45pm-7pm:</u></b>	Debi Barner	Maureen & John Cervinsky
	Janice McLemore	Cervinsky family members
<b><u>Thursday, July 21, 3:45pm-7pm:</u></b>	Debi Barner	Maureen & John Cervinsky
	Janice McLemore	Cervinsky family members

### **VOTE NOW SIGN HOLDING (Three locations)**

#### **Friday, July 22, 3:30pm-5pm:**

<b>Adele Ave. &amp; Kitsap Way</b>	Kathleen Cahall	_____
	John Collins	_____
<b>Fred Meyer</b>	Maureen Cervinsky	_____
	John Cervinsky	
	Cervinsky family	

**Silverdale Way &  
Ridgetop Blvd.**

Candy Rankin  
Bob Rankin

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**Thursday, July 28, 3:30pm-5pm:**

**Adele Ave. & Kitsap Way**

Kathleen Cahall  
John Collins

Janice McLemore

**Fred Meyer**

Maureen Cervinsky  
John Cervinsky  
Cervinsky family

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**Silverdale Way &  
Ridgetop Blvd.**

Candy Rankin  
Debi Barner

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**Other activities in September & October before the November 8 general election include:**

- Blue Mailbox Sign placement next to or near the 31 mailboxes in our Bremerton/CK area
- National Voter Registration Day, September 20: riding the Bremerton-Seattle ferry, setting up a Voter Information table, walking around with a sign, Is Your Voter Registration Current?, etc.
- Bremerton Farmers Market dates: Thursday, Sept. 22 & Thursday, Sept. 29, 3:30pm-6:30pm
- VOTE NOW sign holding at three locations, dates to be determined

**STAY TUNED FOR FURTHER DETAILS ABOUT EACH OF THOSE ACTIVITIES**

**Candidate Forums:**

Maureen screen shared the list of people who have thus far filed for candidacy in elections which affect our area. The Forums Committee will be meeting regularly to plan the forums for several of those elections. Primary forums will be held in July prior to the August 2 election date (only those contests with more than two candidates), and General election forums will be held in October. Maureen was very involved last year and is pulling back for at least the primary election cycle, to be able to enjoy her family visiting in July and August. She is, however, very happy to train anyone interested in learning the digital duties of a forum host. The host is not the moderator (the person who asks the questions of the candidates). Candy will also be happy to sign up digital timekeepers for the forums. It is possible that the committee will decide to conduct the general election forums in a hybrid format, in which case we would need additional volunteers at the in-person venue to greet, hand out question cards, sort questions. **PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING FOR ANY OF THOSE POSITIONS--CONTACT MAUREEN OR CANDY.**

**Additional ideas for distributing fliers, handouts, bookmarks:**

- Pat said that where she lives, at The Pearl on Oyster Bay, as well as at two or three other nearby facilities, residents might find it difficult to register to vote or update their registration. Janice said she would get some VR forms to Pat, as well as fliers that display the QR code, with which a person can register to vote via mobile phone. We could possibly arrange a date to set up a table at those facilities.
- Kathleen Cahall suggested leaving some of our bookmarks in Little Libraries in our neighborhoods or wherever we know one is located.

--Pat mentioned the possibility of leaving fliers and/or bookmarks at Kitsap Transit hubs, where there are racks set up for pamphlets--and on Kitsap Access buses (the latter especially would require contacting Kitsap Transit for permission & how best to distribute fliers)

--Janice said she has had success in the past (pre-COVID) registering voters/helping people make address changes when setting up a table at the East Bremerton Goodwill. She has a sandwich board she set up & averaged about 10 VR forms filled out. Candy experienced similar results at the Silverdale Goodwill. Janice will contact Pam Hamon, current co-coordinator of the Voter Services Committee, to let her know if and when she plans to resume volunteering at the East Bremerton Goodwill.

**--THOSE OF US WHO HAVE VOTER REGISTRATION BAGS: PLEASE BRING THEM TO OUR JUNE MEETING, SO WE CAN VERIFY AND COORDINATE MATERIALS.**

### **vot-er.org :**

Candy attended the May 13 LWV-K Health Care Committee meeting, where Madison Roszak was the guest speaker. She is a student at Boston University, doing an internship with the nonpartisan, nonprofit organization Vot-er. Founded in 2019 as a way to connect health care institutions and providers with the tools, training and community to register colleagues and patients to vote, Vot-er's mission reflects its core belief that empowered voices and full participation in the democratic process lead to positive health outcomes. Patients who utilize emergency rooms and community health centers as their primary care setting are often young, uninsured and people of color, the same groups who vote in low numbers. In 2020 Vot-er helped 48,000 patients and healthcare providers get ready to vote. They have connected with 500 hospitals and clinics and have 200 national partners, including the League of Women Voters, American Academy of Pediatrics and American Nurses Association.

LWV-K Health Care Committee co-chair Jessica Guidry, committee members Pam Hamon and Ann Pyles brainstormed possible local healthcare settings in Kitsap and how we could partner with Vot-er to help people get ready to vote. Jessica offered to reach out to her healthcare connections and also check with Maurie Louis about any processes needed to follow and possibly putting a piece in the next Kitsap Voter.

Madison shared that August is National Health Civic Month, a time to highlight the direct impact of local elections. Their array of patient handouts, texts, badges, etc. is all available for LWV to use. Together we could host Voter Registration drives at healthcare facilities, integrating their materials into what we already use. Pam and Madison made plans to meet to show one another the materials each organization uses. Pam also mentioned that September 20 is National Voter Registration Day, another possible target date for collaboration. Many possibilities exist: Northwest Family Medicine Residency program, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health, Peninsula Community Health Clinics, Poulsbo's Fishline, Wellness Center in Suquamish, Kitsap Mental Health Services, Planned Parenthood, just to name a few.

### **Know Your County Revision/Modernization Project Update:**

Maureen said the small committee from our unit continues to meet to create an up-to-date online county government springboard for people to use. If people understand how city and county government works, that can provide motivation to vote. The small group has been meeting on Tuesdays. They've recently taken three weeks off and will resume meeting Tuesday, June 7, @ 1:30pm at Maureen's house.

Various members have taken on different sections. Pat Troxell has been working on a Kitsap County history timeline. They welcome anyone interested in fact-checking and helping to format what has been compiled thus

far. It is essential that the finished product be as inclusive as possible, recognizing that indigenous people have lived in this area since time immemorial.

Maureen shared with us how to access our unit page that she has created; it contains the latest revisions of the *Know Your County* project, as well as links to Unit Meeting Notes and Recent Recordings:

[www.lwv-kitsap.org](http://www.lwv-kitsap.org) > About Us > Units > Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit > Bremerton/Central Kitsap Page

### **LWV-K's Annual Meeting Keynote Speaker Christine Rolfes:**

Several of us attended the May 17 webinar, with WA State Senator Rolfes, who first presented a PowerPoint overview of the 2022 legislative session highlights, then answered questions for the remainder of the hour. We discussed some of the impressive accomplishments, while also noting that many people are really struggling to make ends meet in this current economy. Senator Rolfes, who has served as WA State Senator for the 23rd legislative district since 2011, chairs the Senate Ways & Means Committee. She is very open to answering questions: [christine.rolfes@leg.wa.gov](mailto:christine.rolfes@leg.wa.gov)

Sen. Rolfes' presentation and Q&A session can be accessed on our unit page, as well as by going to YouTube.com and searching for League of Women Voters of Kitsap. Our League currently has 67 videos on its YouTube channel.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

### **Next Unit Meeting:**

***Saturday, June 18 10AM, at United Way & via Zoom***

1-hour planning meeting for David Nelson's presentation, then those wishing to join Juneteenth festivities at Evergreen Park could walk or drive there. Our League is not setting up a table this year at the park. The public gathering for Juneteenth begins outside Norm Dicks Government Center at 10am, followed by a parade to Evergreen Park at 10:15am, in which everyone is invited to join. Those members wishing to attend the Juneteenth celebration beginning at 10am should feel free to do so.

### **Special Unit Meeting with guest David Nelson, Kitsap Sun Editor:**

***Thursday, June 23 6:30PM via Zoom***

Editor of the Kitsap Sun since 2010, David writes a thoughtful column many Sundays and has a wealth of knowledge and experience to share with us about local journalism and beyond. We'll have the opportunity to ask questions and hear how newspapers are handling major changes in the way people access their news.

Submitted by Candy Rankin