



The Voter

November 2022

Table of Contents

Bev Goodman Remembered.....	2
Youth Voter Education.....	2
Shoreline Management Act: Study.....	3
New Member Spotlight! Suzanne Schreiner.....	4
Poulsbo Fire CARES	5
Climate Change = Risk!	6
Earth Action Challenge.....	7
Sunshine Law: Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).....	7
Early Childhood Presentation and Video.....	8
Unit Reports	9
Mark Your Calendar.....	11

Bev Goodman Remembered



Bev Goodman came to Kitsap from Yakima, where she was very active with the League and was recognized as a Yakima Renaissance Woman by the Yakima Herald for her involvement through music, counseling, mediation, volunteering and political activities. She moved to Poulsbo in 2010 and was a member and active volunteer of the Kitsap League for eight years. Many of us remember having so very many League meetings in the community room where she lived. She moved back to Yakima and passed away in July at age 94. Her smile, sense of humor, and laughter will be missed.

[Back to Top](#)

Youth Voter Education

Voter Services Committee



Becky Drotz, SK Voter Services Lead, and Janet Stegemeyer, SK Unit Lead, answered a request by South Kitsap's Discovery Alternative High School to participate

in the school's term one Speakers' Week by giving presentations on voting and elections Oct. 18 and 21.

The students who chose to attend the LWV-Kitsap session were intrigued by the 1964 Louisiana "Literacy" Test that was handed out, and they earnestly attempted to answer the confusing and ultimately unanswerable questions. Stegemeyer and Drotz explained that before the 1965 Voting Rights Act was passed, a number of Southern states used tests or devices to disenfranchise prospective voters, mainly African Americans. The (white) registrar would be the ultimate judge of whether an answer on the test was correct.

The Leaguers emphasized how citizens must stay vigilant against voter suppression even today and explained how the Supreme Court's 2013 decision in [Shelby County v. Holder](#) to overturn the section of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, which mandated federal oversight of changes in voting procedure in jurisdictions that historically disenfranchised African-Americans, had led to a number of state law changes aimed at making voting more difficult.

Stegemeyer and Drotz gave a historical overview of how revolutionary it was in 1776 to have a representative form of government as opposed to a king, although initially only white males who owned property could vote. They discussed how more and more citizens have become enfranchised as time has gone by, including through the 1971 passage of the 26th Amendment that lowered the voting age from 21 to 18. Four 18-year-old students registered to vote during the presentations, and more took home registration forms or the bookmarks with the QR Code and link to registering online.

Washington State and Kitsap County voters' pamphlets were handed out, and examples of how to become an informed voter were discussed. LWV-Kitsap has been invited to present again during the Speakers' Week in winter term two and spring term three.

Janet Stegemeyer, SK Unit Lead

[Back to Top](#)

Shoreline Management Act: Study

Study >> **Consensus** >> Position >> Advocacy



The next big thing happening to mention is the "**Shoreline Management Act at 50+ Years**" consensus process. You've hopefully received and read a previous email dedicated to this consensus process. It's a very important task for us, as a group, to complete. Please watch for something from your unit lead about an upcoming

consensus discussion. You should have also received via snail mail a special letter emphasizing the importance of this consensus process. "Without a **consensus** there can be no position and with no position, there can be no advocacy which is what we're all about." Unit discussions coming in November! The study and related materials are available [here](#),

Maurie Louis

[Back to Top](#)

New Member Spotlight! Suzanne Schreiner

Suzanne with Flora. Photographer Kelly Walkup



In 2019, Suzanne made the move from Tacoma to Bremerton. She had decided that she wanted to lessen her rent burden, so she was looking for a place to relocate to, when a friend suggested that she consider Bremerton, and she liked the idea! After settling into Kitsap life, Suzanne discovered the League of Women Voters Kitsap (LWVK). Suzanne was familiar with the League from years earlier while living in Spokane. She admired the goals of the League and the like-minded women she met, so when she discovered LWVK, she joined and became a member of the Bremerton unit in January 2022.

When asked what drew her to the League, Suzanne said, "like many others, I am worried about the state of our democracy in this fraught political moment. There is a lot to worry about: extreme gerrymandering, the two-party stranglehold that fans division, the dysfunction of the electoral college, just some of the ingredients in the toxic stew that gave us the violence of January 6th. No one thing is going to fix it but the League's insistence on non-partisanship and an informed electorate are essential tools. People have to believe that their vote counts and can bring about change".

Suzanne grew up in the suburbs of San Francisco in the 60s and 70s, attended Catholic schools through 10th grade, and then finished the last couple of years in public high school. She said she found the large public school, "bewildering" and was delighted when she finished.

She attributes her interest in civics to the many dinner table discussions that were commonplace in her home. Coming from a family of avid readers, who weren't shy about sharing their opinions, sparked Suzanne's own interests and opinions. She said

of her family, “We talked about everything that was going on in the world and why things were that way and how they might be better. My dad worried about the economy, having launched a business in the middle of a recession. My mother, a self-described news junkie, kept a close watch on the local police blotter, scandalized by the petty crime seemingly all around us, though it never dared show itself in our quiet, leafy neighborhood.”

This was a time in history that had a lot going on; so, it was no surprise that today’s historic events were the main topics around the dinner table (Watergate, civil rights, political assassinations, the women’s movement, Vietnam). Suzanne said, “it was all fair game. And sometimes it got loud. Not quite League style, perhaps, but it certainly encouraged us to engage with the issues of the day and to consider ourselves stakeholders. And it was fun!”

As an avid reader, it is not surprising Suzanne found a career that ensured she was surrounded by books and knowledge. She was a librarian for the University of Puget Sound. She still has a keen interest in politics, but also finds cities and urbanism very interesting, highlighting that cities are “where the future shows up first.”

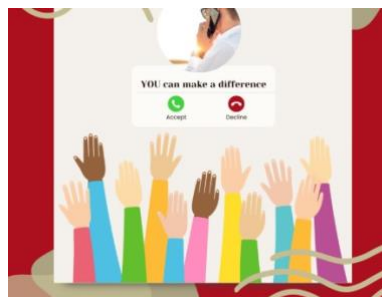
Suzanne’s father, two brothers, a sister, and a niece reside in California. She shares her home with two cats and says she cannot resist “something that is both furry and entertaining.” She plans to add a dog to her furry family as she would enjoy walking, hiking and strolling with a four-legged companion.

Catherine Freudenberg, Voter Team

[Back to Top](#)

Poulsbo Fire CARES

BI Unit



Presentation by Kimberly Hendrickson, Poulsbo City Director of Housing, Health and Human Services and Jim Gillard, Chief of the Poulsbo Fire Department (link below for the 9/28/2022).

CARES was launched in January 2021 by the Poulsbo Fire Department to address situations where individuals are struggling with behavioral health issues. The CARES program stays involved after the immediate response to help the individuals navigate the situation whether they need medical attention, mental health care, substance use disorder services or other kinds of care. It is a multidisciplinary team aiming to prevent crisis by being proactive in the field. It continues to add partnerships with other Kitsap

response agencies including Bainbridge Island Fire Department.

Volunteer Opportunity: The CARES program is adding another component where community volunteers can help. Poulsbo Senior Cares – Program to Kickoff Fall of 2022! “Research shows that friendly, empathetic phone calls reduce loneliness, depression and anxiety, and improves general mental health within a few weeks.” JAMA Psychiatry, February 2021

Conversationalists Needed! We are calling ALL Volunteers! Do you like chatting on the phone? Love the ability to help others from the comfort of your home? Participate in a new opportunity to help seniors in our community with a friendly weekly phone conversation. Training is provided. Volunteers must be 21+ years old and available by phone as little as one hour per week! Kimberly Hendrickson

kimberlyh@cityofpoulsbo.com

More details at <https://cityofpoulsbo.com/poulsbo-fire-cares/>

Volunteer Application at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JTTXD5G>

Link to the recording CARES Overview can be found here:

<https://youtu.be/ZwwkPFdBoA>

Betty Wiese

[Back to Top](#)

Climate Change = Risk!

Climate Solutions Committee



League of Women Voters Mason, Thurston and Kitsap County came together to cosponsor a guest speaker, Steve Kolk. Steve Kolk presented *Pacific Northwest Climate Signals: An Actuary's insights regarding Future Climate Risks and the "Inflation Reduction Act"* to League members on October 18, 2022. Steve Kolk is considered one of the nation's foremost actuarial experts in climate change. He has spoken about climate risk issues and mathematical tools for extreme event analysis across the USA and internationally. He did this while serving as a member of the North American team which constructed the first-of-its-kind Actuaries Climate Index. "Climate Risk Analytics will help your enterprise flourish, by mining signals from noisy climate data to put a solid handle on climate risks." (www.kolkulations.com). If you would like to watch the video again or missed the presentation, you may see it here [\(1\) League of Women Voters of Mason County Oct. 18, 2022 - YouTube](#)

[Back to Top](#)

Earth Action Challenge

Program Planning Committee



Over the course of the summer, a subcommittee of the Planning Committee has been meeting to create a new environmentally centered action program. Entitled *Earth Action Challenge: Improving Our Community*, this year's theme is *From Seed to Soil: Reducing Food Waste in Kitsap County*. In keeping with the League of Women Voters Washington, this program aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The challenge, open to students from sixth grade on, is to create and implement a solution for a restaurant, school, or other small facility that doesn't currently have a reasonable way to compost or otherwise dispose of food waste in a manner that will not produce methane. Students will use the scientific method to develop, document, and display their project ideas. A panel of judges will determine the top three finishers in each of two age groups. Projects will be displayed and discussed on February 3, 2023, and cash prizes will be awarded. Entries must be submitted to the League of Women Voters-Kitsap website by October 20, 2022. (LWV-Kitsap.org)

Robin Muir

[Back to Top](#)

Sunshine Law: Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA)

DEI Committee



Earlier in the year, DEI decided to form a task team to develop training on the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) for League members. OPMA is one of two Acts that comprise Washington State's Sunshine laws. The second is the Open Public Records

Act (OPRA). The DEI team felt that it was important to create this training after what was observed during the Washington redistricting process. A task team had five members, Jeannie Allen, Team Leader, Martha Burke, Catherine Freudenberg, Susan Griggs, and Carol Larsen. The team worked together through the summer to review documentation, videos and develop a presentation for League members. Using a prerecorded PowerPoint presentation, the OPMA overview was delivered to members during three meetings held in September and October with the South Kitsap, a combined North Kitsap/Bainbridge Island and Bremerton/Central Kitsap. Following the presentation, those present engaged in discussion and were able to ask questions.

The OPMA slide presentation is approximately 11 minutes when run in slideshow mode, or it can be viewed and read manually. It contains active links that enable viewers to access the source documents and related content. Members will find information pertaining to OPMA, redistricting and a reference slide that contains links to additional training, videos and case law. The task team recommends that members view the newly released Attorney General's video, highlighted in yellow on the reference page, as the content reflects changes to the law that went into effect in 2022. This link is for the LWVK BI/NK Unit presentation <https://youtu.be/7XxzVjko6Fs?t=172> and members who would like a copy of the PowerPoint document to use for a reference document, can find it on the member's page of LWVK website.

Catherine Freudenberg

[Back to Top](#)

Early Childhood Presentation and Video

0 to 3 Committee



The 0 to Three Committee has been updating its power point presentation for the Delta Kappa Gamma teaching sorority in-person meeting on November 15th. There are some technical issues among others that must be worked out. Rosalind Renouard attended the Peninsula Early Child Care Coalition Zoom meeting on October 4th, and was introduced to many people working in child care not only in Kitsap but also in other counties on the peninsula. The committee thought it a good idea to keep current with the actions of the various organizations that are active in child care.

In doing research for our presentation, we came across one of the best videos that describes the importance of the early years of life. We would like to share it with you, our members, because it answers the big scientific question (WHY?). It is presented by Dr. Jack Shonkoff Director of the Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University.

The 0 to Three Committee encourages the LWV-Kitsap members to view the video because it succinctly answers not only why early learning is so important to the child but also why it is to the family, the community, the educational system and the country and society as a whole.

If you find this video enlightening and helpful, please pass it along to parents, parents to be, grandparents, teachers and especially influential people in business and most importantly to those people who form public policy. **The early years are short but the most influential years of a person's life.**

<https://youtu.be/WO-CB2nsqTA>

Rosalind Renouard

[Back to Top](#)

Unit Reports



Bainbridge Island Unit

The October BI Unit meeting hosted Catherine Freudenberg who gave an overview of the Open Public Meetings Act and Kimberly Hendrickson, Poulsbo City Director of Housing, Health and Human Services and Jim Gillard, Chief of the Poulsbo Fire Department who gave an overview of the Poulsbo Fire CARES program. These two presentations are covered above.

November BI Unit meeting: Wednesday, November 30 at 10:00 AM – **Note Change of Date & Special Topic!**

To avoid the Thanksgiving holiday, we are moving our November meeting to Wednesday, Nov. 30 at 10:00 AM. We will be using that time to discuss the Shoreline Management Act and the State League's study, as well as the consensus questions. Hopefully, you've seen emails about this special topic already. Check out this highly [informative page](#) on the LWV-Kitsap website for everything you need to know. We will be sending a separate email on this important meeting shortly. [Shoreline Study Consensus Process - League of Women Voters of Kitsap \(lww-kitsap.org\)](#)

Colette Crosby

Bremerton/CK Unit

The guest at our October 15 unit meeting was Eric Baker, Deputy Director, Kitsap County Dept. of Administrative Services. Eric has worked in Kitsap County government for 32 years, the last 16 of those with the Board of County Commissioners. He is a dynamic speaker, and he invited and thoroughly answered all our questions. He shared a PowerPoint presentation and discussed the 2024 Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan update. Required by Washington State's Growth Management Act (GMA), it will plan for population and employment growth through the year 2044 and will include a blueprint for local policies and capital facility investment. A Comprehensive Plan has eight mandatory elements, including land use, housing, utilities, economic development, parks & recreation, and transportation. The county's Comprehensive Plan affects unincorporated Kitsap County. Each city has its own comprehensive plan. The plan does not include tribal lands, though the Planning Commission meets regularly with the tribes to coordinate efforts. Comprehensive plan can be found here <https://www.kitsapgov.com/dcd/Pages/ComprehensivePlanUpdate_2024.aspx> and the Unit presentation [\(1\) 2024 Kitsap County Comprehensive Plan Update-- Conversation with Eric Baker - YouTube](#)

On November 19, **Kathleen Cahall will lead a discussion of the LWVWA Shoreline Management Act study** at our regularly scheduled hybrid unit meeting. Keep an eye out for details.
Maureen Cervinsky and Candy Rankin

South Kitsap Unit

Nine SK Leaguers volunteered on Sept. 20 for National Voter Registration Day activities: Kathy Campbell and Mara Schmerfeld rode the Southworth/Vashon/Fauntleroy ferry. Jeannie Allen, Marty Bishop, and Kathy Campbell were at the Manchester Library. Rochelle Karlsen, Annette Lozon, Anita Rose, Janet Stegemeyer, and Shirley Wall were at the Port Orchard Library. In the previous week, Becky Drotz had set up Voter Outreach Displays at the Manchester and Port Orchard Libraries and also contacted the high schools about promoting National Voter Registration Day. Catherine Freudenberg and Jeannie Allen made a presentation on the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA) at the Sept. 13 unit meeting.

The last Port Orchard Farmers Market Voter Outreach Booth of the season was held on Oct. 1. Judy Arbogast, Samantha Carpenter, Betty Haines-Lewis, and Janet Stegemeyer volunteered at the booth which was the most successful for voter registrations this year. On Oct. 20, Kathy Campbell, Mara Schmerfeld, and Jeannie Allen placed ballot drop box signs near 24 USPS blue mail collection boxes. Three SK Leaguers helped put on the Zoom candidate forums Oct. 17 -21: Ann Strosnider, forum chair; Liz Sebren, moderator; and Janet Stegemeyer, back-up moderator. At the request of Discovery Alternative High School in Port Orchard for their guest speaker events on Oct. 18 and 21, Becky Drotz and Janet Stegemeyer represented the League and made presentations to students about voting and elections.

SK Leaguers are planning Get-Out-The-Vote sign waving events by the Port Orchard City Hall and the intersection near Fred Meyer on Nov. 2, 3, and 4. The guest speaker at the Nov. 8 SK Unit Zoom meeting will be Jennifer Hardison, Executive Director of SK

Helpline. The Shoreline Study Consensus discussion for the SK Unit will be Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. with Betsy Cooper attending to answer questions. The SK Unit meets the second Tuesday of the month at the new time of 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. Contact: Janet Stegemeyer, 360-471-9470.
Janet Stegemeyer

North Kitsap Unit

The NK unit had its first hybrid meet at the Poulsbo library and it worked very well thanks to Carol Larsen's set up. A thank you note was received from Ardis Morrow who had a serious fall followed by surgery and recovery. The bulk of the meeting was spent discussing the Shoreline Management Act consensus process. It was suggested that the Board be asked to give a copy of this study to our local elected officials for their education on shoreline issues. (State representatives, county commissioners, mayors and perhaps include the Health District.) The NK unit meets on the 4th Monday of each month at 10:30 at the Poulsbo Library with a zoom option. They will be discussing and answering the 9 CONSENSUS questions on Nov. 28.
Pam Hamon.

[Back to Top](#)

Mark Your Calendar



These events and dates come from the League's calendars displayed on our website. The events that are open to the public appear on the [Public Calendar](#) linked to from our home page at <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/>. Events that are for members only appear on the [Members Calendar](#) that is displayed in the [For Members](#) section of the website. (This calendar also shows the events open to the public.) Go to the appropriate calendar to get the most up-to-date information, including Zoom links. If you are an event's organizer use the members only [Request a change or addition to the LWVK calendar](#) to add/modify/delete your event.

Purple means LWV of Kitsap Public Calendar

Fri Nov 4, 2022

10 a.m. DEi Committee

Sat Nov 5, 2022

10 a.m. LWVK Board Mtg

Tue Nov 8, 2022

10 a.m. SK Unit Meeting

Fri Nov 11, 2022

12:30 p.m. Healthcare Committee

Mon Nov 14, 2022

2 p.m. Voter Services meeting

Tue Nov 15, 2022

10 a.m. '0-Three' committee meeting

Sat Nov 19, 2022

10 a.m. Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting

10 a.m. Planning Committee

Wed Nov 23, 2022

10 a.m. BI Unit Meeting

Mon Nov 28, 2022

[Back to Top](#)

10:30 a.m. NK Unit Meeting

7 p.m. Climate Solutions Business

Fri Dec 2, 2022

10 a.m. DEi Committee

Sat Dec 3, 2022

10 a.m. LWVK Board Mtg

Fri Dec 9, 2022

12:30 p.m. Healthcare Committee

Mon Dec 12, 2022

2 p.m. Voter Services meeting

Tue Dec 13, 2022

10 a.m. SK Unit Meeting

Mon Dec 19, 2022

10 a.m. Planning Committee