



The Voter

January, 2023

Table of Contents

Upcoming Guest Speakers	2
Our Voter	2
Victoria Hilt, A Member Spotlight and Perspective	4
Democracy Lobby Week	7
Call for Help.....	9
New Book Group Forming: "The First Political Order"	10
EVENT! Voices of Kitsap County Webinar.....	11
Shoreline Study Consensus Results for LWV Kitsap.....	12
A Second State Study - Journalism.....	15
Committee Activities.....	16
Unit Activities.....	21
Mark Your Calendar.....	23



Upcoming Guest Speakers

- [Kitsap County Indigenous Tribes \(DEI Committee\) Public Hospital Districts \(Healthcare Committee\)](#)
 - [Stefan Goldby, President & CEO, Bainbridge Island Chamber of Commerce \(BI Unit\) Jill Santon, Executive Director of Bremerton Housing Authority \(BI Unit\)](#)
 - [Heather Blough, Executive Director of Kitsap County Housing \(Bremerton/CK Unit\)](#)
 - [Kirsten Jewell, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division Manager \(SK Unit\)](#)
 - [Tim Winter, Superintendent of South Kitsap School District \(SK Unit\)](#)
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Our Voter

Cat Freudenberg, Barb Willock and I, as the current Voter team, have been having discussions about the role and content of our Voter. We've asked other members what they would like to see in the Voter and here is a short list of some of the points that were brought up and discussed.

- A strong point made is that the content of the Voter should help us accomplish our League's goals? It's hoped by everyone that what is in the Voter will trigger interest

and show how very simple it is to be involved, in a small way or a big way, in long projects or tiny tasks. The more members involved the easier it will be to accomplish our common goals.

- Another strong point made is that readers like learning about what is coming up in a bit more detail. One way to use the Voter as a tool is to submit an article that expands a bit on the standard who, what, where, when and why for upcoming events. To really make the article complete, it would be good if the "why" explains why a guest speaker has been invited to speak or why it has been decided to host a discussion on a particular topic, while looking through the lens of our League's mission, vision or current focus areas. There is always the reason "to inform the public", which is a very good reason, but it would be helpful to explain how the topic relates to something our League is involved in. This is particularly the case if the topic pertains to something our state Legislature or one of our city councils or governing agencies is or will be focusing on.
- It was also mentioned several times that what one unit is doing in the next month or so might very well be of interest to members in other units.
- Members of one unit may want to join in another unit's meeting to learn more about how others are dealing with common concerns. This supports the need for the Voter to focus on upcoming events in more detail than past events.
- We on the Voter team want everyone to know that any member can submit an article. One doesn't need to be a unit lead or committee chair or anything official. Placing an article in the Voter is a very great way to share your concerns, interests or activities that might resonate with other League members.
- And lastly, you absolutely don't have to be a skilled writer, by any stretch of the imagination. Go ahead and write an article, as sketchily as you want, on a topic of your choice and the Voter team will help with the editing, grammar, etc. The only strong rule is that it must be non-partisan, not supporting or opposing any candidate or political party. You might find there are lots of League members thinking the same way you are and perhaps together you can make something good happen.

We hope reading these points will help everyone see the Voter as an easy tool to use for sharing ideas and joining in the variety of the League's upcoming activities.

Cat, Barb and Maurie, the Voter Team

[Back to Top](#)



Photographs: Victoria Hilt, Photographers: Kara Georg (right) and Mark Van Huis (left)

Victoria Hilt, A Member Spotlight and Perspective

A Little About Me

My name is Victoria Hilt. I am a 36-year-old single mother, cat lover, coffee and book connoisseur, student, advocate, and social media explorer. I have lived in Kitsap County since 2006. In 1998, I was a child in Utah's Foster Care system until my grandparents decided to become my legal guardians and invited me to live with them in Fort Bragg, CA, changing my life trajectory.

Growing up in Fort Bragg, I experienced a lot of grassroots organizing resulting from the culture of this small community, helped in part by the many citizens who had been movers and shakers during the Civil Rights movement and Vietnam era. I recall as a high school student establishing S.T.A.R.T. (Students Taking Active Roles Together) and being the Environmental Officer for my Class Council. I suppose it wasn't a total surprise when I became a parent of an Early Head Start child and became involved in the Policy Council and my community in various ways after that.

My Interests and work

Since 2013, I have participated on various councils and boards: Kitsap Community Resources Head Start, Early Head Start and ECEAP Policy Council, Kitsap Community Resources Board of Directors, Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP Parent Ambassador & Board Member, Bremerton Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Governor Inslee's Poverty Reduction Workgroup Steering Committee, a Girl Scouts of Western Washington Service Unit 312 Troop Leader. In 2014, I became a member of the Alliance National Parent Partnership Council (ANPPC), and this past year, became a member of the Children's Trust Fund Alliance Board of Directors. A lot of

organizations and through my experiences, I have learned that it takes all of us to create a thriving, dynamic community. As an example, the mission of the ANPPC is to ensure that all families have the opportunity to thrive, not just survive - by elevating primary prevention efforts, strengthening protective factors, and building collaborative partnerships.

My interests led me to pursue and become a Certified Trainer of the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Framework: Bringing the Protective Factors to Life in Your Work. As a result of my experiences and training, I see the world through a new lens, and I see the connectedness of ourselves with each other. Ultimately, when it comes down to it, we have more in common than we have differences.

As such, I believe that to have strong children, we need strong families, and to have strong families, we need communities that are strong and supportive of families. Communities need the support of strong cities and counties, strong legislative districts, and strong governmental policies. It's all connected. This has led me to look for ways to connect the strong aspects of our community to help families thrive. I've been a part of a group called Strengthening Families Locally (SFL) Bremerton for the last few years. The group formed just prior to the pandemic, so we haven't met a lot in person. We are working to find ways to provide support and assistance to families to prevent neglect and ensure the care and well-being of children which ultimately leads to fewer cases referred to the child welfare agency. We are educating members and creating community awareness to recognize the signs that a family might need help. We're holding Community Cafes to bring awareness and expand reach. Presently the meetings are held virtually but we hope to have in-person meetings in the future. [Anyone interested in learning more or attending a Cafe, should reach out to Victoria for more information clementinedubois@gmail.com]

I haven't finished school yet, as sometimes life is bigger than ourselves. I pursued a Real Estate Broker's license. I feel that this education and my experiences have given me more understanding of the generational impact that purchasing a home can have on a family. I wanted to understand why families weren't able to buy homes and the effect of the housing market. I have a much better understanding of the process to purchase a home. With my many years of community work experience, I am focused on ensuring that my clients are protected and their needs cared for throughout the process.

Experience with League

I joined the League of Women Voters in 2015, while I was a student at Olympic College, trying to get my degree in Early Childhood Education and Public Policy

Administration, and another student invited me to attend an introduction session to the League. It turned out I knew other LWV Kitsap members from advocating for the Early Start Act, the Breakfast Before the Bell bill, and a few other children and family-focused legislative actions.

Reflecting on my membership with the various organizations and the League, I am reminded of the power of relationships. While attending advocacy training, the facilitator said, to remember one phrase, “Relationships, Relationships, Relationships,” one word repeated three times. Relationships are powerful. Relationships can help further great ideas, pass bills, enact policies and bring about positive changes. I’ve noticed over the last few years, as each of our members has struggled to adjust and pivot with the pandemic, the involvement of LWV Kitsap members has decreased. Engagement in community activities and opportunities has decreased. Integration of the myriad of different lifelong and long-term members, as well as new members, has become more difficult, and more strained.

It prompts me to pause, reflect and consider the situation; the people, and the environment and take notice of the connections between people – the relationships. We have been living in a pandemic, and the changes continue to impact us. Economic struggles, barriers, loss, and discomfort. It is truly no wonder that relationship building has been put on the back burner of our priorities as we grieve for the routine and lives, we once lived.

Building Relationships & Ideas for Reengaging

We need to reconnect. We need to reach out. I may not know you personally, yet, but I’m willing to make the effort if you are, and I know other members are as well. When we want to make positive changes, we have to make positive connections. To do that we have to allow ourselves to get a little vulnerable like I have by sharing a little about myself. Get a little uncomfortable,

by reaching out to others we might not know very well. I’m not suggesting we abandon our preventive measures (I’m a huge fan of prevention actually) but I do think we need to reconsider who we can reach out to, even if it’s for something as simple as a chat.

I, for one, want to know– Are your needs being met? Is there anything you’re struggling with? Is there anything you want to Celebrate? How can I help you be the best you are? Need to talk to someone on the phone once a week? I’m sure you’re not alone. So how can I help you reconnect with your unit? How can I help you reconnect to the activity in the community? Is there a phone tree we need to set up? If people aren’t able to attend a unit meeting, who is noticing, and who is reconnecting afterward? Are there technological barriers to attending the league events virtually?

Reach out. Let someone in your unit, someone on the board, or even info@lwvkitsap.org know. Let's find a way to take that barrier, and build a connecting bridge over it.

Our connections build our LWV Kitsap Membership, and our membership builds our local league – so let's strengthen our ties together. Let's rebuild the community connections we once had.

Victoria Hilt

[Back to Top](#)



Democracy Lobby Week

As president of our local League, I stepped up to be our League Action Chair. I received this email from Susan Fleming, the state's Advocacy Portfolio Director. I thought I'd share it with all of you. I must confess that my ulterior motive is to recruit one or two of you to join me in making this a successful week for our Kitsap league. Please consider helping me with this. Thank You.

Dear League Presidents,

Democracy Lobby Week, sponsored for the sixth year by the League of Women Voters of Washington and Fix Democracy First, will be held online the week of February 6-10, 2023. As a local League Action Chair, your role will be vital in making this week a success. Action Chairs provide the connections among local League members, the Lobby Team, and elected representatives

and senators.

We will be organized by legislative district, and, as you may know, some districts overlap Leagues, and some Leagues cross multiple districts.

Your role for Democracy Lobby Week as Action Chair will include:

1. Keeping track of members and others signed up to participate via a shared spreadsheet.
2. Setting up meetings with your district's legislators.
3. Working with other Action Chairs when districts and Leagues overlap to determine which local League Action Chair will coordinate with which district representatives.
4. Coordinating meetings with your local League members (and other participants) and your legislators.
5. Obtaining the zoom link. (We will help with this.)
6. Acting as mentors for participants to ensure their meetings with legislators are successful.
7. Communicating any changes in meeting times to all participants and the planning team.
8. Serving as the contact with your League members and the legislator(s) with reminders, changes, etc.

Lots of resources and support will be available for you to accomplish the above. We'll have a meeting with all Action Chairs in early-mid January to go over the details of the week, the schedule, explain the resources, and answer any questions you have. Of course, the planning team will continue to be available to help with anything and everything.

This event is a great opportunity for our League members and friends to become familiar with League priorities and have REAL experience talking with their legislators. Thank you in advance for your participation and leadership during Democracy Lobby Week.

On January 7th, 9:00am – 12:30 pm our Lobby and Redistricting teams will be presenting an online workshop on testifying to legislators: *SPEAK UP SCHOOL – LEARN TO TESTIFY*. Registration is open via our LWVWA.org website, Events page. This workshop would be very helpful for your members who will be taking part in Democracy Lobby Week.

Please Consider Helping Me Do Our Part

Maurie Louis, President (maurie.louis@comcast.net)

[Back to Top](#)



Call for Help

Each April we participate in [The Kitsap Great Give](#) which is a 24-hour give-day event that unites the community through a special online donation platform to support the many nonprofit organizations that make Kitsap a great place to live – for all of us. The event generated \$2.02 million from 3,402 donors through 8,814 gifts to support 384 local nonprofit organizations. We are one of the organizations. Presented by [Kitsap Community Foundation](#) and the [United Way of Kitsap County](#), this annual “community movement of generosity” has resulted in more than \$14 million in community support since 2014. The Great Give organization has all of our information so no work is needed on our part.

Sound Publishing publishes the *Bainbridge Island Review*, *The North Kitsap Herald*, *The Port Orchard Independent* and *The Central Kitsap Reporter*. Each year they offer special rates for organizations like ours to promote what we do. The promotions attract Great Give donations to our League’s Ed Fund. **These promotions will be in the January issues.** We use the same promotion each year which they have on file so no work is required on our part.

Help Wanted: *We DO need a person to be our League contact for both the Great Give staff and the Sound Publishing staff. 99% of the work is already done with very little tweaking required. The only task I know of is letting Sound Publishing know how large this year’s ad should be. Once the contact person gets approval from our treasurer and board, they can give the thumbs up.*

That's it.

This is one of the very small and easy tasks that happen only in January, but the benefits to our Ed Fund are substantial!

Please contact Maurie at maurie.louis@comcast.net with any questions or to express your interest in assisting with our Great Give.

Maurie Louis, President

[Back to Top](#)



New Book Group Forming: "The First Political Order"

Do you enjoy reading books that may change your life and give you insightful understanding and perspective? You're invited to join a group to read together *The First Political Order: How Sex Shapes Governance and National Security Worldwide* by Valerie M. Hudson, Donna Lee Bowen, and Perpetua Lynne Nielsen. These three professors collaborated on this definitive, well-researched work that convincingly makes the case that subordination of women is irrefutably tied to the well-being of nations and societies, using extensive hard data and an exhaustive survey of 176 countries. This is an important book

and guaranteed to stimulate a lively and engaging discussion. A group is being formed to start reading together in February or March. The subject matter is dense and emotional, and reading it at a slow pace with group discussion to follow is very worthwhile. If you are interested, please send an email to Rochelle Karlsen at sailorrochelle@gmail.com.

[Back to Top](#)



EVENT! Voices of Kitsap County Webinar

DEI has presented webinars on Voices of Kitsap County with lots of diverse communities in Kitsap County (the Black community, the People of Color community, the Hispanic/Latino community, and the Asian/Pacific Island community). Two more webinars are planned – both with the Kitsap County Indigenous tribes: **the Suquamish tribe and the Port Gamble S'klallam tribe.**

It is important for LWV members to know something about the issues that are facing the Indigenous tribes, and what issues they are bringing up to the legislature. Because the two tribes in Kitsap County are very different and their needs and issues are very different, we are having two different webinars, at two different times. Each of these webinars are expected to be between an hour to an hour and a half.

The League would like to know how we can be better allies to the tribes in our county. How do the Indigenous tribes interact with the county (police, development, etc.), the state, and the federal government? Since they are sovereign nations, how are these relationships affected?

These workshops will be held in the latter half of January. Please stay tuned for the date and other details, which will be sent as soon as possible.

Background information on the Suquamish Tribe can be found in the Port Madison Dialogues, that can be found at <https://bit.ly/PortMadison>. If you have questions that you would like answered during the webinars, please send them to Susan Griggs, susan.griggs0803@gmail.com, or 509-668-2888.

Susan Griggs, DEI Chair

[Back to Top](#)



Shoreline Study Consensus Results for LWV Kitsap Huge Shout-Out of Thanks!!!

I want to give a huge shout-out of thanks to all of our League members that participated in this very classic grassroots activity. Grassroots really is the League's solid foundation. Here is one of several definitions of grassroots that I found on Wikipedia, **“Grassroots movements and organizations use collective action from the local level to effect change at the local, regional, national or international level.”**

A small grassroots committee of members from across the state proposed a “study” to see how impactful the Washington Shoreline Management Act (SMA) that was passed in 1971 has been. The “study” was proposed as a “Program of Work” at the 2019 state League convention. It was voted on and approved by the League delegates that attended the convention. More than 3 years later, the committee completed their “study” and identified 14 issues that impeded the SMA.

The standard procedure is for a study committee to analyze their findings and perhaps propose one or more new or updated League policies based on those findings. To ensure that this is a grassroots activity, the local Leagues are asked to review the committee's report and decide, as a group, if there is agreement or *consensus* regarding each issue presented by the committee. This consensus process is the core of the grassroots activity.

You can review this study's Executive Summary and the Consensus Questions [here](#). There were 39 members from across our 4 units that participated and here are the results. You can view the various comments recorded for each of the questions by various members [here](#).

	Total Strongly Agree	Total Agree	Total No Opinion	Total Disagree	Total Strongly Disagree
Q1	34	5			
Q2	39				
Q3	26	13			
Q4			5-no opinion 14-no consensus	20	
Q5	39				
Q6	39				
Q7	39				
Q8	19	13		7	
Q9	27	5		7	

I invited each unit lead to provide their review of the consensus process we just completed. I also asked Betsy Cooper, a member of our League and a member of the state Shoreline study committee,

Betsy Cooper, State Shoreline Study Committee Member: I would offer that it was fascinating to watch each group clarify what their perspectives and questions were, and how they felt. I was asked questions by each unit were very similar. Also, the discussions on some key aspects of the findings were also similar within units.

The meeting attendees clearly care passionately about our environment. They also mesh those concerns with personal property issues, grounding the discussion in real world land use tensions. It was such a privilege to be part of each discussion! Betsy Cooper, LWVWA's Shoreline Study team member

South Kitsap: The South Kitsap Unit had its Shoreline consensus meeting on Nov. 15. I believe that those who participated well represented the range of thought about the environment and shoreline management among SK Unit members. Having Betsy Cooper present to clarify various points was absolutely vital to a thoughtful consideration of the issues. Overall, the expectation that League members should engage in grassroots discussions of issues and come

to consensus adds strength to the League's foundational concept that we arrive at our legislative positions through a non-partisan process. Janet Stegemeyer

Bremerton/CK: The Bremerton/CK Unit chose to discuss the SMA study at a regular unit meeting on November 19th. Thirteen people participated in the hybrid meeting. All members contributed to the discussions, and we all felt the process went smoothly. The group was able to discuss all the consensus questions during the meeting.

The discussion was successful, in most part, for three reasons. The first is that the members who attended were well prepared for the discussion. The second is that Kathleen Cahall, who led the meeting, had a 38 year career working in water resources for city and county governments and was extremely well prepared to lead. The third is that Betsy Cooper attended, had been a member of the SMA study team, and was able to add information and context to our discussion. She was able to give an overview of the study process and to clarify points and answer questions.

Overall, the consensus process worked well for our B/CK group. One observation that we made was that the "No Opinion" choice simply did not fit because we had opinions about everything. When we could not decide if the answer was in the agree/disagree range for one question, this choice did not work. Had there been a choice of "No Consensus" rather than "No Opinion" for the one question with which we neither agreed nor disagreed, we would have chosen "No Consensus." Maureen Cervinsky

North Kitsap: The North Kitsap Unit met on Monday November 28th to answer the shoreline consensus questions. There were 14 members in attendance, which was a good turnout. We first discussed the questions at our October meeting which made us better prepared for the November meeting. Betsy Cooper attended both meetings and was very helpful in understanding the questions. Both meetings were hybrid meetings which worked well. Our group was very enthusiastic and energized with the topic and clearly felt the LWV should have an updated position on shorelines. I feel that meeting in our separate units allowed for more participation by each member. In the past we would have one large meeting, maybe 30 members, to discuss a consensus.

There were always great discussions but too many people for everyone to fully participate. So I think the unit option is a good one. Thanks to Colette for consolidating our answers. I'm sure everyone will be interested in the final total. Our NK unit agreed that the option should have been "no consensus", not "no opinion". We will look forward to the consensus on journalism. Pam Hamon

Bainbridge Island: The Bainbridge unit had its consensus meeting on November 30. Participation was small but all the people there were well prepared for in-depth discussion about the questions and the consensus decisions. The process moved along

efficiently and while it was a challenging discussion, Consensus was developed on virtually all points.

Delight Willing

[Back to Top](#)



A Second State Study - Journalism
“The Decline of Local News and Its Impact on Democracy”
Consensus Process Coming SOON!!!

The League of Women Voters’ credibility rests on our extensive, professional studies and our grassroots consensus processes. Together, these result in official positions that can be quoted and relied upon by our advocates in Olympia. Without official positions our advocacy efforts are weak – or nonexistent.

We just finished the consensus process for the Shoreline study and that committee is in the process of drafting an official position. We have just a few weeks to catch our breath before we are asked to do it again for a second state study, *“The Decline of Local News and Its Impact on Democracy”*

In January, 2021, the Journalism affinity group shared a concern that local news reporting was in jeopardy. What to do? With no positions on the books, advocacy wasn’t an option. The state board recommended *“The Decline of Local News and Its Impact on Democracy”* as a study item. Delegates to the 2021 Convention adopted it and the study commenced. Local League meetings to arrive at consensus will begin in February 2023. Positions that come out of this work will be incredibly timely as communities across our state grapple with the problem of the decline local news.

January – 2nd or 3rd week: Study Committee hosts state-wide Zoom informational meeting. Recording will be available.

February: Local Leagues review study; members participate in meetings to discuss and respond to consensus questions.

March 20: Target deadline for consensus statement from Local Leagues. **April 10:** Target date for state Board to adopt new position, post on website. Position is available for use.

May 4-7: Convention: Position presented to delegates at Convention.

I encourage all of you to participate in this upcoming consensus process. Your unit leader will let you know how participate as soon as they receive the information. Please don't miss out on this one.

Maurie Louis, president

[Back to Top](#)



Committee Activities



DEI Committee

DEI is working on future work and our upcoming *January Voices of Kitsap County* webinars on the Indigenous tribes. There are lots of DEI questions that our members have brought up that we are pondering whether to research and/or present a program on them. If there are persons who would like to let us know that they are interested in a subject matter, please let Susan Griggs (susan.griggs0803@gmail.com), or Jeannie Allen (jallen360@gmail.com) know.

- What is equity – how is this different from equality?
- How accessible are Kitsap County streets for physically handicapped persons? Should we

walk the streets to find out? Or can we just get information from each municipality since they should have done an accessibility study?

- How do the problems at St. Michael's Hospital affect the low-income residents of Kitsap County or the people of color? If they cut services, how will this affect the marginalized persons?
- Restorative Justice (which is an alternative to punitive criminal justice, i.e. incarceration, that looks at how to restore what was hurt by the perpetrator to the victim and the community, and be able to get the perpetrator restored in a safe and effective way to the community) - shall we get a speaker to talk about this type of justice, especially since other Washington counties and the juvenile system in some places uses this alternative option, especially as a pre-punishment procedure?
- The privatization of prisons and how this affects the different communities in the county
- ABLE – Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement Project out of Georgetown Univ. to train police departments (Kitsap County police departments want community endorsements so that they can take this training, but the endorsers have to indicate that the police departments are ready to be able to utilize this training).
- DEI is having two webinars in the latter half of January on Voices of Kitsap County with the Indigenous Communities. Stay tuned for more details, and look for the longer article in the Voter on this.

Our Next DEI meeting is on January 6th at 10:00 am. We are also considering having another get-together of DEI members or interested persons at another time during the month – so please let me or Jeannie (emails above or mine also below) know if you would like to come (and when works for you). Please contact Susan for more information at Susan.griggs0803@gmail.com 509-668-2888.

Susan Griggs, DEI Chair

[Back to Top](#)



Early Education: 0 to Three Committee

The 0 to Three Committee met this month to discuss not only the upcoming Washington State Legislative Session but also our way forward in the year 2023. We plan to continue to reach out to various organizations by distributing our flyers and bookmarks and by presenting our PowerPoint presentation. We will closely watch the legislative session particularly as it has to do with the funding of the *Fair Start for Kids Act* - a comprehensive bill passed last year that touches upon just about every facet of child care, early learning and preschool attendance.

Rosalind Renouard, Committee Chair

[Back to Top](#)



Healthcare Committee

On **January 13th**, the Healthcare Committee will have a Zoom meeting at **12:30PM** with basic information about **Public Hospital Districts (PHD)**. The meeting is open to all League of Women Voters of Kitsap members and guests. The presentation will include a video from the Association of Washington PHDs. Information will also be presented about what a PHD is, how a PHD is governed, what healthcare services PHDs in Washington state offer and how to find more details about creating a PHD. Several guests will join us from other local Leagues to answer questions about the responsibilities of a PHD board member and other general questions about PHDs.

In the year ahead, the League of League of Women Voters of Washington committee for the Public Hospital District civics education project plans to produce a webinar video that will offer more information about PHDs. That video will be available to local Leagues for public education meetings.

To attend the Healthcare Committee meeting, go to the members page at <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/for-members/> and enter the member password. You will find the Zoom meeting link in the calendar on January 13 by clicking on the meeting announcement. Members may share this link with guests who are interested in the topic.

If you have any difficulties accessing the member page or finding the link, contact interim chairperson Leni Skarin leniskarin@gmail.com and she will send the link to you.

Leni Skarin, Interim Committee Chair

[Back to Top](#)



Nominating Committee

The work of the Nominating Committee will begin early in 2023 to prepare the list of candidates for the next election of LWV-Kitsap Board of Directors. Board of Director elections occur at the Annual Meeting which happens in April- May timeframe. The board will set the date for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

The committee consists of five members. Three members represent the general membership. The other two members are appointed by the current Board of Directors from among Board members. One member was appointed by the Board at their December meeting; the Board needs to appoint one additional member.

Members of the Nominating Committee include:

Betty Wiese (BI Unit), Chair Candy Rankin (Bremerton/CK Unit)

Carol Larsen (NK unit)

Rhonda Fairgrieve (SK unit), appointed from the Board of Directors

[Back to Top](#)



Program Planning Committee

The Program Planning Committee is looking forward to an interesting slate of speakers. Greatly aided by the Healthcare and DEI Committees, the month of January will be full of opportunities to learn about our community needs. The Healthcare Committee will be holding its regularly scheduled meeting on January 13th, from 12:30 to 2PM. League members and their guests are invited to listen in as Leni Skarin presents and educational slide show on public hospital districts.

Later in January (be on the lookout for the dates), DEI will continue their "Voices in the Community" series with two webinars featuring the tribal chairman of the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Kallam tribes. These webinars will be an opportunity to learn about tribal governments and how those governments interact with our local, state, and federal governmental bodies.

Additionally, the chairmen will discuss their visions for the future of their respective tribes.

February will be devoted to looking at the "rule of law" as it pertains to the use of the courts to litigate voting issues and in general to assure us that the system is fair. In addition, we will be learning about the history and effectiveness of the Electoral College. Our speakers will be Chad Enright and Thomas Weaver.

Put your thinking caps on in preparation of the March Program Planning Day where we decide how and where we want to devote our efforts. What is of burning importance to you and our community? The tentative date is March 13th. We look forward to your ideas, input, and interest as we move into an enlightening new year.

Robin Muir

[Back to Top](#)



Voter Registration

Six members of the committee met on December 12 to sum up our voter registration efforts this past year. All agreed that we did the best we could with the COVID restraints still in effect. We were well received by the public wherever we went. We had a total of 59 volunteers at 18 locations including the ferries and libraries. We registered 63 people and

gave out more than 60 VR forms. Many people used the QR code. We counted 39 and gave out lots of bookmarks with QR information. Each unit posted signs on all the USPS blue mail boxes in the county reminding voters to mail their ballots before October 31st.

Three units held Get Out the Vote signs by the ferries and other street locations. The South Kitsap Unit participated in the Speakers Day at South Kitsap high school. In April and May, we will hopefully go back into the high schools to register their seniors. January 13 is Good Citizenship Day and we will bring voter registration materials to each high school in early January. Next year we felt that we should focus on getting the youth to register and vote by going to Olympic College more regularly. We only went twice this past year.

Most of our materials are in our storage area in Silverdale.

The Voter Registration committee will need a new coordinator or co-coordinators in 2023. Anyone interested in taking this position can contact Pam Hamon or Julie Shryock for more information. Each unit takes on a large part of the work but there is a need for someone to coordinate efforts, conduct meeting and write reports. Voter registration is one of the most important services that the League provides the public. It's a very rewarding job but new enthusiastic energy is needed. Please consider volunteering.

Pam Hamon and Julie Shryock, Committee Co-Chairs

[Back to Top](#)



Unit Activities

Bainbridge Island Unit

On January 25, the Bainbridge Unit of the Kitsap League will host **Stefan Goldby, President and CEO of the Bainbridge Chamber of Commerce**. This meeting will be on zoom and invitations will be sent out.

Stefan was invited because he is very active in a number of the public projects and events on Bainbridge. He is very familiar with emerging business efforts. He has been active with the affordable housing effort on Bainbridge. Transportation issues are another

topic of interest to the Chamber.



Stefan Goldby, President & CEO

Born and raised in England, Goldby has spent three successful decades generating millions of dollars in new revenues for clients and overseeing multiple rounds of fundraising in Ohio, Colorado and California. As co-owner of [Chemistry Productions](#), Stefan has extensive experience leading projects with a wide variety of brands, artists, nonprofits, and events in the entertainment, media and retail sectors.

He moved with his wife and two children to Bainbridge Island in 2015 and quickly became involved in business development, e-commerce and early-stage financing for multiple local companies and nonprofits. Stefan also led community efforts to launch both the Bainbridge Strong campaign and the digital [Bainbridge Island General Store](#).

Stefan's role at the Bainbridge Chamber is the perfect forum for his special blend of hyphenation: It brings together multi-tasking, partnership-building, mutually-beneficial dealmaking, business-and-economic development, and wide-ranging community advocacy.

He also makes a lovely cup of tea.

So come to our zoom meeting at **10:00AM on Wednesday, January 25**. Learn more about various projects coming up on Bainbridge!

Delight Willing and Colette Crosby, Unit Leaders

[Back to Top](#)

Bremerton/ Central Kitsap Unit

The Bremerton/CK Unit meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 14th, from 10AM to noon**. Our guests will be **Jill Santon, Executive Director for the Bremerton Housing Authority, and Heather Blough, Executive Director for the Kitsap County Housing Authority**. This switch to the 2nd Saturday of the month for January is due to scheduling conflicts at the Kitsap United Way, so please mark your calendars for the 14th.

Maureen Cervinsky, Unit Leader

[Back to Top](#)

North Kitsap Unit

The North Kitsap Unit meets the fourth Monday at 10:30AM at the Poulsbo Library. We met on November 28th to discuss the shorelines consensus questions. It was a hybrid meeting and 14 members attended. Because we completed all the questions, we decided not to have a December meeting, the day after Christmas. We will meet again at the Poulsbo Library or via zoom Monday, January 23rd at 10:30AM when we will decide on the topics for the winter and spring.

Pam Hamon, Unit Leader

[Back to Top](#)

South Kitsap Unit

The SK Unit meets the second Tuesday of the month at **10:30AM via Zoom**. Our guest speaker on **January 10, will be KIRSTEN JEWELL, Housing and Homelessness Division Manager for Kitsap County**. She will give us an update on the Pacific Building Shelter project on Mile Hill Drive in Port Orchard as well as other information on housing and homelessness in Kitsap County.

Our guest speaker on **February 14, will be TIM WINTER, Superintendent of the South Kitsap School District**. He will discuss the upcoming bond and other topics related to education and SK schools. The SKSD bond proposal will be a 20-year, \$271 million measure that could go before voters during the November 2023 general election and, if approved, would pay for rebuilds and improvements of multiple aging schools.

SK Leaguers Becky Drotz and Janet Stegemeyer have been asked to return to Discovery Alternative High School in Port Orchard on January 31 and February 3 to give a presentation to students about voting, elections, and civics during the school's winter community speaker sessions. For questions, contact Janet Stegemeyer, jans@oz.net, 360-471-9470.

Janet Stegemeyer, Unit Leader

[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 Jan 6, 2023
10 a.m. DEI Committee

Mon Jan 9, 2023
2 p.m. Voter Services meeting

Tue Jan 10, 2023
10 a.m. SK Unit Meeting

Fri Jan 13, 2023
12:30 p.m.
Healthcare Presentation
Public Hospital Districts

Sat Jan 14, 2023
10 a.m. LWWK Board Mtg

Mon Jan 16, 2023
10 a.m. Planning Committee

Tue Jan 17, 2023
10 a.m. '0-Three' committee meeting

Sat Jan 21, 2023
10 a.m. Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting

Mon Jan 23, 2023
10:30 a.m. NK Unit Meeting
7 p.m. Climate Solutions Business

Wed Jan 25, 2023
10 a.m. BI Unit Meeting

Wed Feb 1, 2023
9:30 p.m.m 2023 Program Planning Day

Thu Feb 2, 2023
12 a.m. 2023 Program Planning Day

Fri Feb 3, 2023
10 a.m. DEI Committee

Sat Feb 4, 2023
10 a.m. LWWK Board Mtg

Fri Feb 10, 2023
12:30 p.m. Healthcare Committee

Mon Feb 13, 2023
2 p.m. Voter Services meeting

Tue Feb 14, 2023
10 a.m. SK Unit Meeting

Sat Feb 18, 2023
10 a.m. Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting

Mon Feb 20, 2023
10 a.m. Planning Committee

Tue Feb 21, 2023
10 a.m. '0-Three' committee meeting

Wed Feb 22, 2023
10 a.m. BI Unit Meeting

Mon Feb 27, 2023
10:30 a.m. NK Unit Meeting
7 p.m. Climate Solutions
Business

[Back to Top](#)