

THE VOTER

In This Issue...

Message from the President	1
Welcome New League Member!	2
League of Women Voters Kitsap Primary Candidate Forums	2
Committees	2
Early Education: 0 to 3	
Healthcare Committee	
Membership Committee	
DEI Committee	
Unit News	4
Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit	
North Kitsap Unit	
South Kitsap Unit	
Mark Your Calendar	6

Empowering voters. Defending democracy.

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

Message from the President

My first introduction to the League of Women Voters was accompanying my mom to Chris Town Mall (Arizona’s first completely enclosed mall—you’re welcome for that little piece of retail history) to register voters. She also took me to the Arizona State Senate to observe none



other than Sandra Day O’Connor who was the Majority Leader (the first woman in any state to hold that position). I remember my mother saying that O’Connor was going to “go places” (it was 1973).

My mom recently celebrated her 96th birthday, and so we took the opportunity to go on a little road trip. On our way home we spent

the night in the formerly burgeoning metropolis of Tonopah, Nevada. As we headed to dinner at the Mizpah Hotel, I noticed the sign bearing the name of Marjorie Moore Brown, a mover and shaker in Nevada’s suffrage movement. According to the sign, Marjorie Brown “used her social and organizational skills to better her town and state through civic action.” I couldn’t help but think of the League. (Well, it might have been all the emails I was getting — but let’s go with the nostalgia thing!) Our mission is also to better our communities.

So, while I was on the highways and byways of the west (and in and out of cell service), our unit leads were working to make sure we would be holding forums for the upcoming primary. These forums are central to who we are as an organization and require a rather intense effort over the weeks of planning and conducting the events. Thanks to Leni Skarin, Maureen Cervinsky, and Janet Stegemeyer for putting together teams to conduct these events. And thanks to all the other Leaguers who said “yes” to being a part of the forum teams. “Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!”

One last thing — the tiara has been found! I could barely contain my excitement and will wear it with pride at every board meeting. Suffrage does sound a lot like insufferable.

Robin Muir, President

Welcome New League Member!

Colleen Taylor – North Kitsap

Colleen Taylor recently joined LWVK. She's in the NK Unit area. When you see Colleen at an upcoming meeting or event, be sure to give her a big welcome and help her get plugged into any activities in the works. Welcome!

Carol Larsen, Membership Chair

League of Women Voters Kitsap Primary Candidate Forums

At its core, The League of Women Voters mission is to inform our electorate. Forums are one of the ways we do that. Here in Kitsap County, League members are dedicated to providing voters with an opportunity to hear from candidates for local positions like city councils and school boards. Currently without a formal forums committee, we are preparing for the August Primary forms with a loosely formed group from three units.

North Kitsap, Central Kitsap/Bremerton, and South Kitsap units have come together to create forums for their respective areas. * There is no primary for races on Bainbridge Island.

Forums will be held via Zoom webinar as follows:

July 10 at 6:30 p.m.: Central Kitsap School District Board

July 12 at 6:30 and 7:45 p.m.: North Kitsap School District School Board

July 13 at 6:30 p.m.: South Kitsap School District School Board

Your League Needs YOU! November Forums Are Coming!

These forums require many volunteers to be successful. Moderators, Back-up Moderators, Zoom Host, Back-up Zoom Host, Timer, Back-up Timer, and Candidate Liaisons. While most positions have been filled for the August primary, now is a good time to get your feet wet by observing, and perhaps filling a back-up role so we are ready and able to put on forums for the November 2023 General Election followed by primary and general elections in 2024.

*A Port Orchard City Council forum was offered but one candidate was unable to attend, and the other two candidates did not respond to the League's offer to host a forum.

Interested in volunteering? Please contact Robin Muir, Maureen Cervinsky, Leni Skarin, or Janet Stegemeyer.

Committees

Early Education: 0 to 3

The most noteworthy thing done recently is the letter from Rosalind Renouard as Chair of the Committee to all the high school assistant principals in Kitsap County urging them to consider placing early learning into the high school Health Course Curriculum. The letter was purposefully sent at the end of the school year so it could be thought about in an unhurried way over the summer.

Rosalind also attended the June Peninsula Child Care Coalition Zoom meeting at which time she told the representatives from the various groups in attendance of the 0 to Three committee's goal of

Return to "[In This Issue...](#)"

having early learning a part of the high school curriculum. She also mentioned our other goal of having a welcome package for new mothers consisting of two books, one for mom on raising baby and the other baby's first book. Perhaps a toy might also be included.

Plans were made at our last meeting in May to have a picnic in the park in Silverdale on August 15 to just enjoy being together in the fresh air and to do a bit of planning and strategizing on the side.

Rosalind Renouard, Chair

Healthcare Committee

The Healthcare Committee will not meet in July and August. We will resume meeting monthly on the second Friday of each month on September 8 at 12:30 p.m. The topics of most interest identified for next year focus on consideration of healthcare for aging adults — including the impact of Tricare cuts for family members of retired Navy veterans, the availability of primary care physicians specializing in geriatric medicine, the availability of long-term care and hospice care, and the availability of support care for “aging in place.” We will be planning a panel presentation on this topic for the spring of 2024.

If you are interested in participating with the Healthcare Committee, contact Leni Skarin at leniskarin@gmail.com.

Leni Skarin, Chair

Membership Committee

The League values your membership which supports our important work to empower voters and defend democracy. Your dues pay for membership in the state and national League with just a small amount retained for our local League. **Membership begins on July 1 of each year.** For those members who join between April 1st and June 30th, your dues are paid through the following fiscal year ending June 30, 2024.

To make a tax-deductible contribution to our Education Fund, please write a separate check.

ONLINE: Make checks payable to LWV-Kitsap or use PayPal, accessible through the “For Members” tab on our local website: <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/>.

BY MAIL: LWV-Kitsap, PO Box 1524, Poulsbo, WA 98370

The struggle for women is not over but the League is in the forefront of ensuring that women, men, and especially our children achieve progress on making democracy work for all.

Membership Levels:

_____ **\$60 Basic Membership: includes State and National Membership**

_____ **\$90 Household Membership: two or more at the same address**

_____ **\$110 Carrie Chapman Catt Membership (Founded LWV)***

_____ **\$160 Jo Huey Membership (First President of LWV-Kitsap)***

_____ **FREE Student Membership (with student ID)**

_____ **Scholarships - available upon request by contacting C. Larsen, membership (Dues assistance)**

*Includes membership plus donation to the LWV general fund.

Carol Larsen, Membership Chair

Return to [“In This Issue...”](#)

DEI Committee

The League of Women Voters of Kitsap, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee hosted the **Voices of Kitsap Webinar** featuring **Suquamish Tribal Chairman Leonard Forsman** on June 16 — if you missed the live event, it was recorded and you can watch it here: [Voices of Kitsap: Suquamish Chairman Leonard Forsman - YouTube](#).

Unit News

Bainbridge Island Unit

The Bainbridge Island unit will meet in person at the end of June – thank you, Delight, for hosting our meeting at your home. This meeting is an opportunity for Unit members to meet their local Leaguers, reflect on the past year, and consider ideas and interests for the upcoming year. **The Unit will not meet in July and August.** Watch for news from the end of June meeting and information on the September meeting in the August Voter.

Colette Crosby & Delight Willing, Co-Chairs



Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit

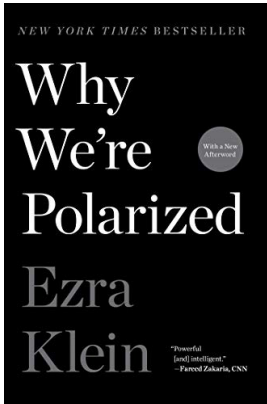
Jim Aho (Illahee Port Commissioner and environmental activist) gave a presentation to the B/CK Unit on June 17. Jim had two overarching messages: the first, that citizens can accomplish amazing results when they band together to protect our natural resources, as they have done in Illahee; the second, that Kitsap County has a unique, pristine preserve in the heart of our community, which needs our support. We recommend that our League members visit the Lost Continent website, (<https://thelostcontinent.org>) and watch the video Illahee: Saving Puget Sound One Watershed at a Time (<https://thelostcontinent.org/film/>).

Our next Bremerton/CK hybrid unit meeting will be July 15 at 10 a.m., in person at the Kitsap United Way conference room, 645 4th St., Bremerton, or via Zoom. We have invited Garrett Jackson, Bremerton's Planning Manager, to present an update on the Bremerton Comprehensive Plan and share with us how Bremerton's comprehensive plan revision impacts and intersects with other county plans.

Return to ["In This Issue..."](#)

Current Bremerton Comprehensive Plan: <https://www.bremertonwa.gov/185/Comprehensive-Plan>

Bremerton Comprehensive Plan 2044 Update: <https://www.bremertonwa.gov/1300/Comprehensive-Plan-Update---Bremerton204>



LWV Book Discussion

Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit

“Why We’re Polarized” by Ezra Klein

August 29, Tuesday, Noon to 3 p.m.

The Pearl on Oyster Bay, 550 Russell Road, Bremerton

Our summer book group is reading “Why We’re Polarized” by Ezra Klein. You may check out a copy at Kitsap Regional Library or purchase a copy from Bremerton’s Ballast Books if you want to shop locally. Let them know that you are part of the LWV B/CK reading group for a 10% discount. Kathleen Cahall will lead the discussion in August. Her introductory information about the book is available

on the League website at <https://www.lwv-kitsap.org/bremerton-ck-unit-page/>.

Unit volunteers will register voters at the Bremerton Farmers Market on July 13 and 20, from 4 to 7 p.m. Contact Candy Rankin for information.

If you want to help with the 2023 Primary Election webinar forums scheduled for July 10, 12 and 13, contact Maureen Cervinsky.

Maureen Cervinsky

North Kitsap Unit

No unit meeting in July! We are busy working on the primary candidate forums — if you haven’t participated in a forum and would like to know what goes on or have questions about how you might participate, please reach out to Martha Burke or Leni Skarin.

We will host our annual unit potluck in August; stay tuned for more information in the next Voter.

South Kitsap Unit

A SK Unit in-person summer get-together is set for Tuesday, August 15, at Manchester State Park. A picnic shelter has been reserved in case of inclement weather. Details for the potluck picnic lunch will be provided later.

■ Maureen Cervinsky, Bremerton/Central Kitsap Unit Chair, was our guest speaker at the June 13 meeting. She spoke about candidate forums. Volunteers to help run the LWVK forums are always needed. More timekeepers would be especially helpful for the upcoming primary forums.

■ Becky Drotz reported on June 13 the results of the spring LWVK high school voter registration drive. **A total of 212 students registered in person.** Bainbridge Island had its event online, so there is no count for that.

The SK Unit will have a **Voter Outreach booth at Port Orchard Farmers Market from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on July 15, August 19, September 16, and October 7.**

The SK Unit meets the second Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom.

Contact: **Janet Stegemeyer, jans@oz.net, 360-471-9470.**

Return to [“In This Issue...”](#)

Voter Team

Editor: Katie Pratt

Layout: Barb Willock

Content: Suzanne Schreiner and Cat Freudenberg

Mark Your Calendar

Mon Jul 10, 2023

6:30 p.m.: Forum — Central Kitsap School Board Districts 3 & 4

Where: Zoom

Tue Jul 11, 2023

10:30 a.m.: SK Unit Meeting

Where: Zoom

Wed Jul 12, 2023

6:30 p.m.: Forum — North Kitsap School Board Director District 4

Where: Zoom

7:45 p.m.: Forum — North Kitsap School Board Director Districts 2 & 5

Where: Zoom

Thu Jul 13, 2023

6:30 p.m.: Forum — South Kitsap School Board Director Positions 2 & 5

Where: Zoom

Sat Jul 15, 2023

10 a.m.: Bremerton/CK Unit Meeting

Where: Hybrid (Zoom and in-person at 645 4th St., Bremerton)

Wed Jul 26, 2023

10 a.m.: Bainbridge Island Unit Meeting

Where: Zoom

Tue Aug 15, 2023

10:30 a.m.: SK Unit Get Together

Where: Manchester State Park

Tue Aug 15, 2023

11:30 a.m.: '0-Three' Committee Picnic

Where: Location TBD

[Return to "In This Issue..."](#)