



VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 5

APRIL 2011

CALENDAR

Thursday, April 28
 LWVTC General mtg.
PLEASE NOTE THIS MEETING IS ONSITE
 Meeting held at LOTT
 6:30 pm
Topic: LOTT

Thursday, May 26
 LWVTC Annual mtg.
 Coach House
 211 21st Ave. SW
 Olympia

Thursday, June 23
 LWVTC General mtg.
PLEASE NOTE VENUE CHANGE
 Meeting held at GRuB
Topic: Community Supported Agriculture

Saturday, July 9
 Candidate forums
 Location TBA

DON'T MISS IT!

LWVTC GENERAL MEETING

April 28, 2011 / 6:30 pm

TOPIC:

LOTT

PLEASE NOTE: THIS MEETING IS ONSITE
 LOTT - 500 Adams St. NE; Olympia, WA 98501

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THE STATE WE'RE IN: WASHINGTON



The compelling text covers the basics of government and is illustrated with graphs, photos and drawings. It is the only book that describes current and historic tribal governance and their interrelationship with state governments and local government in Washington. It includes sidebars about people, current and historical events and reflects the ethnic and geographic diversity of our state.

It was developed for grades 7- 12 and is a useful tool for ESL, GED, Basic Ed and Immigration programs. The companion Teacher's Curriculum Guide is also available. Teachers, librarians and the WA State Indian Education Association endorse it. Copies of the 5th edition are available at special prices. Download the order form at www.lwvwa.org or contact 206-622-8961.

VOTER Editor:
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 dawn8152@msn.com

www.lwvwa.org

*President's Article***LOTT Clean Water Alliance**

The LOTT Clean Water Alliance is the regional wastewater utility for the urban areas of Lacey, Olympia, and Tumwater in north Thurston County. LOTT's mission is to preserve and protect public health and the environment by cleaning and restoring water for our communities. LOTT's main facility is the Budd Inlet Treatment Plant, which cleans approximately 11 million gallons of wastewater each day. To maintain this vital facility, over \$100 million in capital projects are planned over the next eight years. The first of these major projects involves the addi-

tion of new Primary Sedimentation Basins, with construction scheduled to begin later this year.

LOTT also produces Class A Reclaimed Water from a portion of the wastewater flow – this high quality water is approved for nearly all uses, except drinking. Reclaimed water is produced at the Budd Inlet Plant and the Martin Way Reclaimed Water Plant in Lacey. LOTT is currently looking into the purchase of a portion of the brewery property for a future reclaimed water plant in Tumwater.

LOTT has recently opened the new Regional Services Center, a LEED platinum certified building that houses offices, public meeting spaces, and an expanded water quality laboratory. The building also houses LOTT's new WET Science Center, featuring fun, hands-on activities about the importance of clean water, wastewater treatment, and water conservation. To learn more about LOTT, visit www.cleanwater.org or attend our April 28, 2011 program.

Clydia Cuykendall
President

Study (Program) suggestion deadline: MAY 15, 2011

Program

Program is the League's reason for being, the basis for both advocacy and education efforts. League advocacy is based on member study and agreement on selected issues and involves concerted efforts to achieve public policies consistent with League positions. League lobbying promotes or opposes specific pieces of legislation. The LWVUS public policy positions are the official statements of position for each program area and reflect the program adopted by the most recent Convention.

Program Adoption

League program arises from the suggestions of members. At every level of the League, the board of directors is responsible for reviewing and discussing these suggestions, formulating them in the appropriate language, and recom-

mending all or some of them for adoption according to procedures specified in the bylaws. A local League's "action" or advocacy program is determined by members at its annual meeting; state and national programs are voted upon by delegates at state and national League conventions. In the course of the program adoption discussion, members often give suggestions to the board on scope of inquiry, timing, emphasis and ways to handle the study and/or action phases.

Reaching Member Agreement

Before the League can take action, members must agree in broad terms on what they think about various aspects of the policy issue. The nature of the issue will affect how it is studied and how positions are reached. The board usually selects the method to be

used: consensus (where agreement is reached using League responses to specific questions) or concurrence (where agreement or a vote on a pre-stated position is required).

http://www.lwvthurston.org/files/LEAGUE_BASICCS.pdf

Submit program suggestions to:
cjcuken@aol.com

DON'T MISS IT !

LWVTC Annual Meeting

May 26, 2011

5:30 pm

Coach House

FINGER FRIENDLY

POTLUCK...

LWVTC CANDIDATE FORUMS

Election campaigning is starting already as candidates and controversies make themselves known, jot down your candidate questions email them to me at jetheiss@aol.com for use in our candidate forums.

Up for election this year are city councilpersons from Olympia, Lacey, Tumwater and outlying communities, as well as Port Commissioner George Barner and school board members from all the local jurisdictions.

We want to ask pertinent questions of them all!

*Barb Theiss
Voter Services Chair*

2011 LWVTC CANDIDATE FORUMS BEING HELD ON JULY 9TH

Please join us at the GRuB Farmhouse June 23rd, 2011 from 6-8 PM

Thurston County is a fabulous place to find locally grown, fresh, delicious food! It's also full of people working to protect local farmland, promote local food, and grow connections among community leaders, producers and consumers.

The League of Women Voters has teamed up with the nonprofit organizations Garden-Raised Bounty (GRuB; www.goodgrub.org) and Left Foot Organics (www.leftfootorganics.org) to offer you the chance to learn about

all of it!

Have you wondered how CSA's (Community Supported Agriculture) work? Did you know there is a map detailing most of what farms offer in this county? Are you excited to help GRuB bring its Cultivating Youth program into the public schools? Are you concerned about farmland preservation? Do you want to help grow produce for the Food Bank? Are you inspired to learn more about how Left Foot Organics and GRuB are growing leaders in the community? Are you looking to get involved but not

sure how? We'll talk about all of this and more!

Please contact Valerie.Hammett@gmail.com or Kerensa Mabwa at kerensa@goodgrub.org with any questions.

The GRuB Farm
2016 Elliott Ave NW
753-5522



*Valerie Hammett
Vice President*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

LWVTC TREASURE SALE

JULY 23 & 24, 2011

If you have any questions, please contact Fran Williams :

357-3334

franwil@comast.net



Arrangements for the 2011 State Convention are underway. LWV B-F is looking forward to having you come to the Tri-Cities. Mark your calendars for May 19-22, 2011.

Location will be the Shilo Inn, Richland (same location convention was held 10 years ago). This is right on the Columbia River with a walking path running immediately in front on the hotel. The path is good for walking, skating, or bicycle riding. There is a golf course a few blocks away and several in the area and the swimming pool will be open. There's also a terrific optional wine tour on the 19th so you may want to consider coming a day earlier.

Hotel registration deadline is April 19th. For reservations, call 509-946-4661
LWVWA Registration materials will be mailed in a couple of weeks.

<http://www.lwvwa.org/members>

LWVTC Summer Activities 2011

Parades

Tumwater 4th of July Parade	07/04/11
Capital Lake Fair Parade	07/16/11
Rainier Roundup Days	08/23/11

Fairs, & Festivals

Capital Lake Fair	07/13/11—07/17/11
Harbor Days	09/02/11—09/04/11



Please consider volunteering for a 2 hour shift at our booth
or

being a passenger in a parade

Contact Dawn Brooks Gibbs at 360-455-4190 or dawn8152@msn.com

Community service hours for reliable teenagers
available

Sustainability Roundtable of Thurston County (SRTC)

In the December VOTER, we outlined the TRPC's federal grant to develop a Regional Plan for Sustainable Development (RPSD). The TRPC Plan will contain combined elements of housing, land use, transportation, economic development, infrastructure, and environment.

Newly released 2010 census data show that Thurston County has grown 22% in the last ten years, to a population of 252,264. The balance of unincorporated residents to city residents has remained substantially the same, with the unincorporated area population changing only slightly from 55% to 53.5% of the population. Within the cities, the largest

increase in number of people has been in Lacey, though the largest percentage increase was in Yelm. The population data can be found at http://www.trpc.org/data/Documents/Census/Pop_Increase2000-2010.pdf. This data shows the importance of sustainability to our county.

The LWVTC Board approved membership in a newly formed coalition, the Sustainability Roundtable of Thurston County (SRTC), whose purpose is to comment on the RPSD. SRTC's definition of sustainability is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their

own needs". SRTC will be developing issue papers and working with other organizations to assure that the TRPC's products achieve measurable results. The coalition will also be talking about issues of sustainable government, consistent with the issues presented in the League's Local Governance Study, issued in June 2010, and the County Financing presentation given in January 2011. For more information about the TRPC study, see <http://www.trpc.org/regionalplanning/sustainability/Pages/RegionalPlanforSustainableDevelopment.aspx>. For more information about the SRTC, see <http://www.sustainabilityroundtable.net/>.

Cynthia Stewart

LWVTC March General Meeting Summary LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The LWVTC met on March 24th to discuss the 2011 legislative session with particular focus on the budget. Pat Dickason moderated, indicating that release of the House Budget for the 2011-2013 biennium is expected on Tuesday, March 29th. On top of more than \$5 billion that has been cut in recent years, the latest forecast shows an additional \$5.3 billion shortfall in revenues for next biennium. This leaves legislators struggling to balance the budget.

LWVTC members who serve on the state lobby team shared their perspectives. Mary Moore who works on energy and climate change issues said that millions of dollars have been shifted from the toxics fund to other purposes and urged against further raids on the

toxic fund. Margie Reeves spoke in favor of a public-private partnership that would involve corporations in funding the Health and Safety Networks to promote awareness about the effects of adverse childhood experiences on children and adults. Cynthia Stewart talked about the importance of preserving the state's Basic Health Plan and its role as a platform for federal health care reform. Karen Tvedt discussed cuts to child care and welfare programs and the fact that these cuts are inconsistent with long-standing League priorities. To the extent cuts result in citizens using emergency health care, increased welfare caseloads, or children being unable to succeed, they will have huge costs in the long run.

Participants were urged to make sure legislators hear about what the proposed cuts mean to real people in our communities and to weigh-in on the budget negotiations in Congress. Gary Burriss with the Economic Opportunity Institute discussed revenue alternatives. While some legislators believe citizens sent a strong anti-tax message last fall, polling suggests that people understand that the state has a revenue problem and would support closing tax loopholes or increasing taxes to protect certain services. And, consistent with the message from the state League this week, we need to make sure new tax loopholes don't get passed this year that would "dig the hole deeper."

Karen Tvedt

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THURSTON COUNTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please refer to www.lwvthurston.org for more information about the League's activities or membership, or mail in the membership form below.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$_____

DATE:

◇ \$60 for my membership

◇ \$_____ for an Educational Fund Donation

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

LWVTC Newsletter:

The VOTER will be distributed by e-mail.

Check this box to specifically request a paper copy by regular mail.

LWV Purpose

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan, nonprofit political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government. The League influences public policy through education and advocacy. Anyone of voting age may become a League member.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY
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