



VOTER

Volume 6 Issue 1

DECEMBER 2011

CALENDAR

Thursday, Dec. 15
 Holiday Party
 Clydia Cuykendall's home
 4203 Amber Ct. SE
 Olympia
 Potluck dinner!

Thursday, January 19
 LWVTC co-sponsor
 Presentation /
 book signing
 Captain Charles Moore
*Plastic Ocean: How a Sea
 Captain's Chance Discovery
 Launched a Determined
 Quest to Save the Oceans*
 Olympia Community Ctr.
 6:30 pm - 9 pm

Thursday, Jan. 26
 LWVTC General mtg.
Topic:
**Challenges to
 higher education**

Thursday, February 23
 LWVTC General mtg.
Topic:
**Review of League
 positions and
 legislative update**

Thursday, March 22
 LWVTC General mtg.
Topic:
**Capital Lake
 v. estuary**

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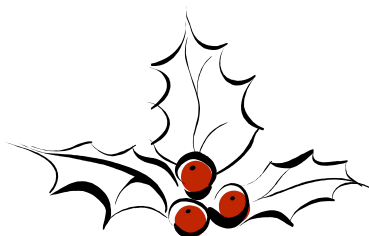
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 dawn8152@msn.com



LWVTC Holiday Party

12/15/2011
5:30 pm
Clydia Cuykendall's home
4203 Amber Ct. SE
Olympia

**POTLUCK
 DINNER!**



**COPY THIS PHONE
 ON
 BRIGHTLY COLORED
 CARDSTOCK**

**CUT OUT
 &
 HAND OUT FREELY**

*President's Article***DIRTY TRICKS**

LWVTC Member Zena Hartung called to the Board's attention a "dirty trick" in the recent election. I concur with her concerns because they apply to the upcoming 2012 elections as well.

The League of Women Voters was established over 90 years ago, when the constitutional amendment that gave women the right to vote also stirred women to stay organized. Since then the League has been a

non-partisan political organization encouraging informed and active participation in government, through education and advocacy.

One vexing problem in elections has been the spreading of anonymous rumors about candidates. The harm done by such rumors is two-fold, it damages reputations and it damages the system of campaigning. "Dirty tricks" have sullied political campaigns more than they ever helped give any candidate a

boost. Citizen voters are discouraged from participating in the election process when it is not fair and civil on all sides. The local League provides forums where candidates can speak for themselves, but when anonymous allegations impugn any candidate's character, we must ask that such conduct be investigated by the media and the Public Disclosure Commission.

*Clydia Cuykendall
President*

PROCLAMATIONS BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS RECOGNIZING LWVTC's 50th ANNIVERSARY

Starting November 22, the city councils of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater and the Board of Thurston County Commissioners will be issuing proclamations recognizing our 50th anniversary and congratulating us for our work over the last 50 years. The reading of the proclamations will be short. Clydia will receive them and likely say a few words. And, this will be at the beginning of the agendas.

Most of the jurisdictions specifically invited members to be present. So as many of you who can make it would be very welcome and your presence appreciated by the elected officials who are bestowing this honor on our organization. We'll pass out copies of the Decade Stories to those elected officials who didn't get one already at the Education Fund Lunch -- and

to members who haven't received one yet.

The Decade Stories is a little pamphlet that reviews the highlights of our League's work over the last 50 years. One of the interesting stories in the 1960s section of the pamphlet is why it took so long for a local league to be organized in Washington State's capital, considering that the national LWV was formed in 1920 after women won the vote nationally. Thanks to our one surviving founding member, Margie Reeves, for that story.

We hope those of you who are former members of these city councils and county commissions will be able to attend; the proclamations make reference to those LWV members that were the first women elected to those bodies. Clydia will probably introduce you because it's now such ancient history and no longer an unusual thing. Current council and board

members may not realize who those first women were.

Proclamation schedule:

Nov. 22, 7 p.m.

Olympia City Council at the new city hall, council chambers. The proclamation is first on the agenda.

Dec 6, 2 p.m.

Thurston County Commissioners at the county courthouse, Building 1, Room 250 (the upstairs big meeting room).

Dec. 1, 7 p.m.

Lacey City Council at Lacey City Hall Council Chambers.

Dec. 20, 6:45 p.m.

Tumwater City Council at Tumwater City Hall Council Chambers.



Marie Cameron

LWVTC 50 ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES

Several activities in recognition of our League's 50th anniversary are being wrapped up this month.

1. PERCIVAL LANDING EXHIBIT on Irene Christy and the role of our League: Barbara Gooding and Marie Cameron provided information to the City of Olympia for an exhibit in August for the dedication of the reconstructed part of Percival Landing. It tells the role of our League through Irene Christy as president in the 1970s in encouraging the development and pointing the way for financing of an aquatic park which became Percival Landing. President Clydia Cuykendall was present in the dedication ceremony when this exhibit and the League's role was announced. You can see the exhibit in the new bathhouse building, on the Columbia Street side, which is a replica of the original Sam Percival ticket window.

2. A BOOKLET CALLED DECADE STORIES was ready for distribution at the November 5 Education Fund Luncheon.

It will be made available to members (and the interested public, especially financial contributors) and all meetings for the rest of this League year and beyond, as long as the supply last. Take some for friends you think would

be interested in joining League and would like to know what we do. The booklet is also on our website. It describes key activities and contributions to the Thurston community from the time of our league's founding in 1961 through 2011. Although we are part of a national organization founded in 1920, you can learn from the booklet why it took until 1961 to establish a local League in Washington State's capital. People who worked on the writing of the booklet include Margie Reeves, our sole surviving founding member and writer of the 60s decade, Betty Tabbutt who wrote about the environmental work of the 70s decade, and Mary Murphy who shared some of the difficulties of trying to run the League in the 1980s when no officers could be found and only 6 board members were willing to serve. Karen Verrill wrote about the 1990s. The 2000s decade (through 2011) came from several contributors and research into League archives. Marie Cameron wrote introductory and concluding pieces, and added some items to each of the decades. Rita Robison edited--which was a bigger job than one could ever dream.

3. A nice BOOKMARK with 50th anniversary information is also available, thanks to Dawn Brooks Gibbs and Sue Lean. Pick up as many as you can use at any league meeting.

4. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCLAMATIONS: Thurston County Commissioners and the city councils of Olympia, Lacey and Tumwater are issuing proclamations recognizing the anniversary and our league's work in the community over the 50 years. The elected officials would like League members to be present for these proclamation presentations at the regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners and city councils. All of them will be first on the agenda. Olympia's on Nov. 22 and Lacey's on Dec. 1, will already have taken place when this VOTER is published. Thurston County's will be Dec. 6 at 2 p.m. and Tumwater's at 6:45 p.m. (following committee reports at 6:30), on Dec. 20. Hopefully all of you League members know where these governmental meetings are held. If not, look in your "They Represent You" brochure, the indispensable League citizen's directory of elected officials. Courthouse and City building addresses are listed.

5. LEAGUE'S HOLIDAY PARTY, THURSDAY, DEC. 15: Sue Lean's beautiful exhibit of our League's activities over the 50 year period will be there. She will also say a few words about the 50th. The Decades Stories and bookmarks will be available.

Marie Cameron

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
Lobby Day is 2-17-2012

LWVWA 2011-12 Legislative Priorities

Strengthen Democracy

- ⇒ Protect state funding that invests in programs to promote a more positive future for all citizens

Support Education, Early Learning, Families and Children

- ⇒ Prevent further reduction of services and quality of public education
- ⇒ Protect funding and programs to meet basic needs of families and children
- ⇒ Promote policies and programs that promote the well-being and safety of all children
- ⇒ Improve and support child care quality and access for low-income families

Improve Access to Health Care

- ⇒ Ensure access for all residents to comprehensive, uniform, and affordable health services
- ⇒ Use implementation of the Affordable Care Act to:
 - Help maintain funding for public health
 - Help maintain health coverage for low income populations
 - Provide incentives for primary care doctors to work in under-served areas

Protect Natural Resources and Human Health

- ⇒ Adopt effective programs to clean up and prevent pollutants from entering the state's air, soil and water
- ⇒ Reduce and eliminate toxic chemicals in children's products quickly and effectively
- ⇒ Continue to support increased fuel efficiency across all modes of transportation

LWVWA Legislative Newsletter

***Subscribe to LWVWA's e-Legislative Newsletter
For information and past issues, go to www.lwvwa.org***

If you would like to receive a printed version, send \$15 to:

LWVWA
4730 University Way NE, #720
Seattle, WA 98105

OCCUPY OLYMPIA

The Occupy Wall street protest in New York City has spawned protests across America including Olympia. Occupy Olympia has set up a tent city in Heritage Park, which includes a first aid tent, food tent, and dishwashing facilities to support the Occupy protesters. The obvious question is "What do the protesters want?" With this question in mind, the LWVTC President, Clydia Cuykendall, a local businessman, Randy Dean, and I visited the encampment on a sunny autumn day and talked with a few of the protesters.

Not surprisingly the viewpoints expressed were varied, reflecting the pluralistic nature of the Occupy Olympia protest. One

person thought that all of mankind join together in peace and love, a view reminiscent of the '60s peace movement. Another person expressed frustration with Big Banks, Big Corporations and noted that there are good and bad unions, but more specifically thought everyone would want to repeal the *Citizens United* decision and end corporate personhood. Consistent with that viewpoint we saw signs criticizing corporate greed and supporting worldwide solidarity.

A few days later, on a blustery grey Northwest day I returned and talked to a couple of young men who said they were homeless. They didn't state broad political opinions, but were concerned that

the hot water and electricity had been shut off and that there was less free food, a consequence of fewer volunteers supporting the camp.

Based on this small sample of interviews with Occupy Olympia participants, it would seem that the question of "What do the protesters want" has diverse answers ranging from the canonical criticism of capitalism to advocacy of a peace culture to the basic needs of the homeless.

Many thanks to the LWVTC volunteers who registered voters at the November 28 rally.

Frank Gorecki

LWVUS—The Latest www.lwv.org

[National Organizations Opposing The Balanced Budget Amendment](#)

The League of Women Voters joined with 277 other organizations in a letter to members of the House of Representatives and Senate opposing passage of a so-called Balanced Budget Amendment to the Constitution. The League has long opposed the balanced budget amendment as a danger to the economy and the balance of powers between the three branches of government.

[League Urges Senate to Oppose Termination of EAC](#)

The League sent a letter to Senators today urging them to oppose the termination of the Election Assistance Commission, the only federal agency that devotes its full resources to improving American elections.

[League Calls on President to Make Nominations to the FEC](#)

In a letter and press conference, the League and coalition partners called for changes in the dysfunctional Federal Election Commission.

[League Urges Opposition to Legislation that Would Block Pollution Controls](#)

The League and coalition partners sent a letter to the Senate urging them to oppose S. 1786, which would block the EPA's ability to clean-up life-threatening toxic air pollution.

[League Submits Comments to UN Committees](#)

The League submitted comments to the United Nation's Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on CEDAW and the Right to Vote and Hold Office.

[League urges Committee Leaders to Post Submissions to Deficit Committee](#)

The League sent a letter to the Chairs and Ranking Members of all House and Senate Standing Committees urging them to post their submissions to the Deficit Committee online as soon as possible, for public review in order to fully embrace transparency in the Super-Committee's process.

[League Urges Senators to Oppose Voiding of Life-Saving Rule](#)

The League and coalition partners sent a letter to Senators urging them to oppose the Congressional Review Act resolution sponsored by Senator Rand Paul which would void the life-saving Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR).

[National Poll Shows Strong Disapproval for President Obama's Smog Rule Delay, Unfavorable Ratings for Congress' Assault on Clean Air Act](#)

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 and consider making a donation to cover the League's extra costs of such 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. Any one of voting age may become a League member.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY

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