



VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 4

MARCH 2011

CALENDAR

Thursday, March 24

LWVTC General mtg.
TC Courthouse
Rm 280
6:30 pm
Topic:
State Budget:
Legislative Report

Thursday, April 28

LWVTC General mtg.
PLEASE NOTE
VENUE CHANGE
Meeting held at LOTT
6:30 pm
Topic: LOTT

Thursday, May 26

LWVTC Annual mtg.
Location TBA

Thursday, June 23

LWVTC General mtg.
PLEASE NOTE
VENUE CHANGE
Meeting held at GRUB
Topic:
Community Supported Agriculture

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

LWVTC GENERAL MEETING

March 24, 2011

Thurston County Courthouse

Room 280

6:30 pm

TOPIC:

STATE BUDGET: LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The great recession has made a shambles of the Washington State Budget and legislators are scrambling to close a projected \$4.6 billion budget shortfall for the 2011-2013 biennium.

This task is made more difficult by the 2/3 majority required to pass tax increases (per the initiative passed last fall).

In her December 15th Budget, the Governor proposed the elimination of 80 programs and ser-

vices.

This would result in major cuts to education and the slashing of programs and services for our state's most vulnerable populations—including the elderly, people with disabilities, and children from poor families. These cuts are on top of those imposed over the past two years.

March 17th is when the next state revenue forecast will be approved, and this forecast will be used

by the legislature in writing the 2011-2013 biennial budget.

During our March 24th meeting, a panel of LWVWA Lobby Team members will provide an update on the legislative budget process, with special emphasis on steps we can take to influence the budget during the final weeks of the legislative session.

Karen Tvedt
LWVTC Lobby Team

President's Article

Public Participation

The Port Advisory Committee recently submitted its report on the Port of Olympia's public participation process and it is available on the Port's website. The report includes research based on the League's positions on public participation, such as the ABC's of Public Dialogue and a workshop at the 2010 National Convention called "Informing Communities: Sustaining Democracy in the Digital Age". The report also includes a review of Bellingham's experience with controversial Port projects, noting that the Ports of Olympia and Bellingham both have historic waterfronts with vacated polluted sites that must be reme-

diated, college populations and diverse thinking residents, all of which can prove to be very challenging. The report contains a matrix suggesting appropriate uses for over twenty public participation techniques and an assessment of the North Point process. Recommendations include the following:

- ◆ Add a general public participation goal to the Port's mission, such as "Promote public participation in Port activities by 1) informing the public, 2) listening to the public, or 3) engaging the public in problem solving."
- ◆ Add a "get involved" section to the Port's website.

- ◆ Broaden techniques for exploring differences of opinion, such as focus groups or other kinds of facilitated meetings.

- ◆ Broaden the Port's involvement in non-business, non-partisan local organizations.

- ◆ Train some of Port staff as meeting facilitators.

- ◆ Measure participant satisfaction with public processes, by using exit interviews, a card handed out at meeting, or a subsequent email inquiry of participants.

Clydia Cuykendall
President

Nominating Committee seeking candidates

The terms of several LWVTC positions will be expiring in June. The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for the following:

Budget Committee - Two members to prepare the budget for 2011-12 before the 2011 annual meeting

Secretary - Two year term

Elected Board Member One - Two Year term

Elected Board Member Two - Two Year term

Nominating Committee for 2012-13 - Three non-board members to serve with two board members

Chairperson of Membership Committee - currently vacant

Chairperson of Observer Corps - currently vacant

Chairperson of Development Committee - currently vacant

If you are interested in serving in any of these positions please contact one of the following: Karen Verrill-Committee Chair, Bob Jacobs, Zena Hartung or Dawn Brooks Gibbs.

Suffrage Leader (and LWV founder) Carrie Chapman Catt — From a Family Perspective

Washington State Capital Museum

March 7 - Noon

\$2 suggested donation

Tim Lane, great grandnephew of Mrs. Catt, will present a program on the life of the suffrage leader and her struggle for equal rights for women. Catt, who lived in Washington for a time, was a pivotal figure in the national suffrage movement and supported the women's suffrage victory in Washington. Lane recently moved to Washington and will provide an illustrated talk from a family perspective on this nationally known figure.

<http://www.wshs.org/scmoc/event-programs.aspx>



COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE

To be the topic of a June LWVTC general meeting



Stay tuned in for more information...

2011 State Convention May 20th - 22nd

The Convention is being held in Richland, hosted by the Benton-Franklin LWV at the Shilo Inn, Richland. If you come on Thursday, an optional winery tour starting at 2 PM is being planned. On Friday morning, a tour to Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science and Technology museum is being arranged.

Convention begins at 1 PM on Friday, May 20 and adjourns at noon on Sunday, May 22nd.



We'll have a busy agenda, with workshops, presentations, speeches and opportunities to meet and greet other LWV members from around the state.

League business will be conducted and plans made for the next several years along with time for fun too!

We're fortunate to have Marcia Merrins, LWVUS Board of Directors, coming to speak to us about Membership on Friday night. The *Good in Government* award will

be featured at the dinner on Saturday.

Filling out the agenda will be a number of workshops on topics like Moderator Training, Program Planning, Fund Raising, Membership, Voter Service, League Basics, Writing Ballot Issues pro and con, How to involve new members, Coalitions, Lobbying at all levels of government, and National list serves.

We'll keep you posted on the details---put May 20th on your calendar!

Pat Dickason

“TREASURE SALE” DATE SET

JULY 23 & 24, 2011

Mark your calendar and start saving those donations!

TO BE HELD AT BOB & BONNIE JACOBS' HOME

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

JANUARY

Stephen Buxbaum

122 21st Ave. SW
Olympia, WA 98501
918-1745
shbuxbaum@comcast.net

JANUARY

Patrick Sampson-Babineau

3043 Wilderness Dr. SE
Olympia, WA 98501
357-7606
patsambab@comcast.net

FEBRUARY

Stephen Langer

716 Quince St. NE
Olympia, WA 98506
754-8540
nwbttml@ix.netcom.com

FEBRUARY

Joan Cathey

526 North St. SE
Olympia, WA 98501
790-9699
sophia4jec2@juno.com

“LWV DAY ON THE HILL”/LOBBY DAY CANCELLED

Leave it to Mother Nature to put the kibosh on the “best laid plans.” As you know, “LWV Day on the Hill,” was cancelled with much chagrin during early morning February 23.

Instead of enjoying a panel on budget and spending, perhaps you were sipping a mug of chamomile tea while munching freshly baked

molasses cookies? Then, when Suzanne DelBene, Dept. of Revenue Director, was scheduled to offer some “Perspectives on Revenues,” perhaps it was time for a long postponed phone chat with a dear friend?

There is a chance that we might yet have a 2011 LWV Day on the Hill. An April date might be possible.

After the next Lobby Team meeting (3/3), more details will most likely be available.

Then, sharpen your pencils, update your smart phones and calendars, and get ready for more “action on the hill” on Friday, February 17, 2012. Hopefully Mother Nature will be kinder next year!

Kathy Morris

You may or may not already know that there is a new League of Women Voters of Thurston County "List Serve" that has recently been brought online. This is a tool that we use quite often for communicating with our members, Please note that the old list (lwvtc@yahoogleroups.com) is dead. The List Serve guidelines that enable our members to use this service are copied below. Nothing has changed except the address, which is now lwvthurston@yahoogleroups.com.

Guidelines for use of the League of Women Voters of Thurston County Email List Serve

The "List Serve" enables our members to quickly make a 'Call to Action,' make announcements, or hold a discussion about League issues.

The message guidelines are simple. Basically anyone can send a message to the List Serve if:

- They are a League member.
- It is about a League related issue.
- It is non-partisan.

If there is any question as to the appropriateness of a message, please contact the

⇒ President, or the

⇒ Chairperson on the topic, (i.e. Pat Dickason, Social Policy-please see the LWVTC Directory for other topic Chairs)

The address for our list serve is:
lwvthurston@yahoogleroups.com

This League of Women Voters of Thurston County groups list is managed by the Membership Committee.



Please send email changes and updates to dawn8152@msn.com

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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Olympia, WA 98507

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