



VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 10

NOVEMBER 2011

CALENDAR

Saturday, Nov. 5

Education Fund Lunch
Olympia Country Club
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
Call 455-4190

Thursday, Nov. 17

**PLEASE NOTE
SPECIAL DATE**

LWVTC General mtg.
River's Edge Restaurant
Tumwater Valley
6:00 Social
6:30 Speakers

**Topic:
Privatization**

Thursday, Nov. 19

Westside
Action Workshop
Bellevue, WA

Thursday, Dec. 15

SAVE THE DATE!
Holiday Party
See December
VOTER for details

Thursday, Jan. 26

LWVTC General mtg.
**Topic:
Challenges to
higher education**

Inside this issue:

<i>President's article</i>	2
<i>Action Workshop</i>	2
<i>Board members</i>	2
<i>State We're In: Washington</i>	3
<i>Ballot measure positions</i>	4
<i>Women who Dare</i>	5

VOTER Editor:
Dawn Brooks Gibbs
dawn8152@msn.com

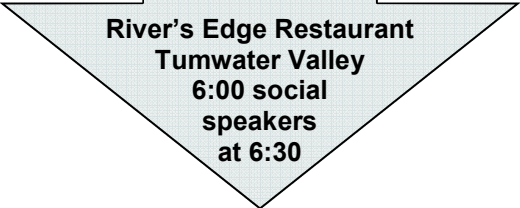
Mark your calendar!

LWVTC General meeting

NOTE SPECIAL DATE 11/17/2011 NOTE SPECIAL DATE

Topic:
LWVUS Study
PRIVATIZATION OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Speaker:
Nora Leech, LWVUS Study Chair



SHOULD GOVERNMENT SERVICES BE PRIVATIZED?

In 2012, the national League will be conducting a study on privatization of government services, asking whether various services, goods, and facilities currently owned or provided by the federal government should be privatized. For a community like Thurston County, where government is our largest employer, this is a huge issue; conclusions reached for the federal government may very well reflect on expectations for state and local governments. The

Thurston League should engage fully in this study and help the national League develop its positions on this critical topic. To begin the work on this study, our program for the general meeting in November is on this topic. Over the next few months following this presentation, our League will discuss the issues and provide our consensus views to the national study team. The November 17 presentation will be by Nora Leech, a Seattle League member and chair of the

national study. Nora chaired the Seattle League's study and we can learn a great deal from her.

Although the formal study materials are not yet available, those who are interested can read the Seattle study and some related material on our web site at <http://www.lwvthurston.org/WorkingonNow.html>. For more information, contact Cynthia Stewart, stew-dahl@comcast.net.

Cynthia Stewart

*President's Article***LWVTC 50th Anniversary**

*Around the coffee pot we gather,
 Full of news and friendship's blather,
 Here to learn, to grow, to give,
 While building the community where we live.
 Enjoying the fruits of labors past,
 Invested in a group that was made to last,
 Aromatic odor from this coffee urn,
 Teases the sands of time to churn,
 Receiving the baton from voters before our time,
 Fifty years of great ideas and we're in our prime.*

Clydia Cuykendall

DON'T MISS IT!**2011 Action Workshop**

Saturday, Nov. 19, 2011; 9:30am – 2:30pm

St. Andrews Lutheran Church; 2650 148th Ave. SE; Bellevue, WA

There's still time to registerGo to www.lwwa.org for registration information**DON'T MISS IT!****ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS*****2-year term - Terms end 5-31-12***

President - Clydia Cuykendall

Vice President - Valerie Hammett

Treasurer - Kathleen Downey

2-year term - Terms end 5-31-13

Secretary - Nancy Scott

Director - Dawn Brooks Gibbs

Director - Cynthia Stewart

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS***1-year term - Terms end 5-31-12***

Allyson Brooks

Kathy Morris

Ed Stanley

Barbara Theiss

Karen Tvedt

Marilyn Zuckerman Funk

If you are interested in a position on the LWVTC board, please contact the Nominating Committee Chair, Karen Verrill, at gocar1@comcast.net

**LWVTC EDUCATION FUND LUNCHEON
PROCEEDS BEING DONATED TO DISTRIBUTE
CIVICS BOOKS TO LOCAL SCHOOLS**



**Civics Donations to Benefit Students
Can You Help?**

All the profits from the Education Fund benefit Luncheon in November will be used to place our civics textbook in schools in Thurston County. The State We're In: Washington. Your guide to state, tribal and local government receives rave reviews from students, teachers and curriculum directors. However, during the current financial crisis school districts cannot afford to purchase them. We have been talking with curriculum directors and others and they are looking forward to having these materials in their middle and high schools.

At this time we are able to purchase sets of 30 books and a Teachers Curriculum Guide for only \$200, down from \$450. Any donation amount is appreciated. (If you choose to make a donation of \$200, we will place labels in each book recognizing your gift.) Perhaps you would like to make a donation in honor of some special person. All donations that we receive at the luncheon or during the month of November will help students learn about government, why they should care about it and how they can participate.

To view the table of contents and some chapter bits go to www.lwvwa.org and click just below the picture of the book.

Please use the form below and send it along with your check to: League of Women Votes of Thurston County Education Fund, PO Box 2203, Olympia, WA 98507. **All donations are tax deductible.**

Karen Verrill

I want to donate \$200 for placing gift sets of The State We're In: WA in local schools.

I want to donate \$_____ for placing gift sets of The State We're In: WA in local schools.

I want to make this donation in honor of _____ or in memory of _____.

Name _____ Phone # _____



League of Women Voters of Washington 2011 Ballot Measure Positions

(all parentheses notations are to the LWVWA Program In Action 2011-2013)



Initiative 1125 - The League of Women Voters of Washington opposes this initiative.

This measure would prohibit the use of motor vehicle fund revenue and vehicle toll revenue for non-transportation purposes, and require that road and bridge tolls be project-specific, while not allowing variable toll rates.

The League believes in a "balanced and seamless transportation system (T-1) and that transportation plans "should be consistent with regional and local long-range growth management plans" (T-2). In order for that planning to come to fruition, effective transportation funding should be available (T-5).

Initiative 1125 limits local planning and funding by limiting the use of revenues only to highway projects. Additionally the proposal would make it more difficult to "reduce single-occupancy vehicle use on highway facilities" (T-11), another League belief.

For those reasons determined during 3 League studies, the State Board voted to **oppose I-1125**.



Initiative 1163 - The League of Women Voters of Washington takes no position on this initiative.

This measure would reinstate requirements for long-term care

workers and providers. A similar bill passed as I-1029 in 2008 and was supported by the LWVWA at that time.

Although the LWVWA positions concerning Health Care and Human Services strongly support the goals of this initiative, the League's position on Initiative and Referendum (IR-5, bullet #4) supports having sponsors of these measures suggest ways to pay for them.

In times of extreme budget issues, that position mitigated against support and so **no position was taken on I-1163**.



Initiative 1183 - The League of Women Voters of Washington opposes this initiative.

This measure would close state liquor stores and allow private parties to sell and distribute spirits.

The League's recently adopted position on Privatization and its 6 criteria measuring whether government services, function and assets should be transferred to the private for-profit sector (PR-1) was used as the basis for analysis. The Board determined that the transfer did not, in the balance, meet the criteria. Board members mentioned concerns with public health and safety and lack of transparency and public involvement. Additionally, the League believes that the fiscal impact of this measure has not been adequately accounted for as recommended by LWVWA position IR-5.

For those reasons, the State Board voted to **oppose I-1183**.



Senate Joint Resolution 8205 -

The League of Women Voters of Washington supports this amendment to the constitution.

This constitutional amendment would remove an inoperative provision from the state constitution regarding how long a voter must be in residence to vote for President and Vice-President.

This measure fixes conflicting voter residency requirements. The League supports "voting procedures [that] serve the voters with maximum of...simplicity..."(EL-2). This measure clears up and simplifies the constitutional residency standard for ALL elections in Washington State.

For that reason, the State Board **supports SJR 8205**.



Senate Joint Resolution 8206 -

The League of Women Voters of Washington took no position on this amendment to the constitution.

This amendment would require the Legislature to transfer additional monies to the budget stabilization account when the state received "extraordinary revenue growth."

The League's positions on fiscal matters are not expansive and the State Board felt they did not have enough direction from the members in order to take a position on this proposal.

For that reason, the State Board **took no position on SJR 8206**.



IDA TARBELL
(American, 1857–1944)

Ida Tarbell is best remembered for the series of articles she wrote on the Standard Oil trusts for *McClure's Magazine* (published in book form in 1904) in which she exposed blackmail, price rigging, and other illegal practices by the company that then controlled 90 percent of the nation's petroleum supply. The articles not only led to dissolution of Standard Oil of New Jersey under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act but also helped shape the emerging trend of investigative journalism.

Tarbell, a biographer and historian by training, continued to pursue historical work as associate editor for *McClure's*. After the Standard Oil exposé, she joined Lincoln Steffens and others in purchasing and running *American Magazine*. Despite her popular image as a crusader, Tarbell strove for evenhandedness and considered herself fundamentally a friend of business.

General Collections • Library of Congress

Women Who Dare

ISAK DINESEN
(The Baroness Blixen, Danish, 1885–1962)

"I began to write to amuse myself in the rainy season. My native servants took a great interest in my work, believing that I was attempting to write a sort of new Koran, and used to come and ask me what God had now inspired me to write." *Out of Africa* is perhaps Isak Dinesen's best-known work, the story of her seventeen years on a coffee plantation in what was then British East Africa. "To my mind the life of a farmer in the East African highlands is near to an ideal existence," she said. But the ideal ended for her when coffee prices fell in 1931. Out of Africa she proceeded, to Denmark, by then celebrated as a master storyteller whose work (*Seven Gothic Tales*, *Winter Tales*, *Last Tales*, *Anecdotes of Destiny*) was often touched by the supernatural. The inspiration for her tales seemed touched by it, too. "I start with a tingle, a kind of feeling of the story I will write. Then come the characters, and they take over, they make the story."

Photograph by Carl Van Vechten, 1959
Prints and Photographs Division • Library of Congress



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. Anyone of voting age may become a League member.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS THURSTON COUNTY

PO Box 2203

Olympia, WA 98507

Phone (360) 352-8220