



VOTER

Volume 5 Issue 2

JANUARY 2011

CALENDAR

Thursday, January 27, 2011

LWVTC General mtg.
TC Courthouse;
Rm 208
6:30 pm
**Topic: Thurston
County General Fund**

Thursday, February 10

**- NOTE SPECIAL DATE -
-NOTE TIME CHANGE-
-NOTE LOCATION CHANGE-**

LWVTC General mtg.
Traditions Cafe
5:30 pm
**Topic:
Drainage Basins**

Thursday, February 24

Lobby Day / LWV Day
Columbia Room
WA State Capitol

Thursday, March 24

LWVTC General mtg.
TC Courthouse;
Rm 208
6:30 pm
**Topic: State Budget
Legislative Report**

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR



LWVTC GENERAL MEETING
JANUARY 27, 2011

TOPIC:

**Thurston County
General Fund
4-yr. outlook**

DON'T MISS IT!

Thurston County Courthouse
Bldg. I; Room 208
6:30 pm

*President's Article***“Farewell to a dreadful decade”**

The December AARP Bulletin proclaimed, “Farewell to a dreadful decade”. I concur.

The first decade of the new millennium started with the 9/11 terrorist attack, followed by the rise of terrorism world wide and two new wars in Afghanistan Iraq, and closed with an economic upheaval of historic proportions and a deeply divided federal government. What to do? The League should continue to work in accordance with our national, state and local positions to solve our problems. Grass roots public participation leads to creative solutions to

such problems at all levels of government.

We can begin by participating in the LWVWA program planning process for 2011-2013. Local League recommendations must be received by Monday, February 14, 2011 and this will be an agenda item on the January 20, 2011 LWVTC Board meeting. So I solicit your ideas for issues we should select for concerted study, followed by member agreement through consensus or concurrence (agreement with a position held by another League).

Consider which issues are of vital concern to our community, which

issues will benefit from the League’s non-partisan perspective, whether there is a possibility for positive change if we work on an issue, whether the League’s work will have a measurable impact, and whether the League will have opportunities to collaborate with other groups.

If you have an issue idea, please let me know whether you would be willing to lead the study.

Dorothy Marsh and Judith Barnes, thanks for a great holiday party.

*Clydia Cuykendall
President*

2011 LWVTC General meeting program calendar

4th Thursday of each month

Thurston County Courthouse; Bldg. 1; Room 208; 6:30 pm social, 7:00 pm program

JANUARY 27 - Thurston County General Fund-4-yr. outlook

FEBRUARY 10 – Drainage Basins

Traditions Café

5:30 pm social; 6:15 pm program

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES: DATE – VENUE - TIME - TOPIC

MARCH 24 - State Budget Legislative Report

APRIL 28 - LOTT: What’s new

500 Adams Street NE, Olympia, WA 98501

PLEASE NOTE THIS PROGRAM WILL BE HELD AT THE LOTT OFFICES

MAY 26 - Annual meeting (Place TBA)

JUNE 23 - Community Supported Agriculture

SPECIAL MEETING

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING TOPIC CHANGED TO DRAINAGE BASINS

**PLEASE NOTE:
DATE, VENUE, TIME, AND
TOPIC CHANGES**

February 10, 2011
Traditions Cafe
5:30 for dining
6:15 program

The rains we have been experiencing this winter are predicted to continue and even worsen. Where does it go? In the past, we know the rain went two ways, first striking the evergreen tallest trees, slowing into the underbrush and settling into the forest floor and a large amount was transpired back into the air. Today it all hits the ground in areas where there are impervious surfaces in urban settings, houses and roads in suburban neighborhoods and even in some more rural settings. The rain becomes run-off and does damage to lakes, streams and rivers.

Zena Hartung will discuss, with a PowerPoint program full of photos, what is being done in Olympia to mitigate storm water and what other communities have done, what is successful and what is not. She will bring experts to answer the many questions our members will ask. Please bring your friends and your family (especially children) to this program.

Zena Hartung

LWV DAY / LOBBY DAY

I get it. "Lobby Day" is shorter and easier to say than "League of Women Voter's Day." But, hey, wasn't the name changed a couple of years back?

No matter what we call it, the day when we meet with our legislators and participate in educational sessions on topics important to Washington is a very important date in our League year. I hope you'll write "LWV Day," in ink, on your calendar for Thursday, February 24, 2011, and then plan to participate to the greatest of your ability.

Whether it's lobbying a legislator, setting up coffee, or taking a turn at the LWV-TC informational table, it's all important! So, please, find a friend or two and "come on down" for this important event.

In case you didn't get one of the new, yellow-bound, member directories at the Holiday Party in December, I can be reached at (360) 943-3934 or klmlwv@comcast.net. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have, and I look forward to sharing this most important day of learning and action, Thursday, February 24, 2011, with you.

Kathy Morris

LOTT PROGRAM COMING IN APRIL 2011

The LWVTC April program will be held in LOTT's new LEED Platinum building and will focus on the regional wastewater treatment services provided by the LOTT Clean Water Alliance, comprised of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and Thurston County. The LWVTC's comments on Olympia's 2010 Comprehensive Plan Update Regarding Water Resources (3-7-10) advocated that all the jurisdictions in Thurston County should have a unified water plan, including a simplified legal and policy framework.

Our comments cited LOTT as the best example of this approach and suggested it could be expanded to plan for other water resources. Specifically, we supported retention of Comprehensive Plan Goal PF 3.1 stating that utility functions for Drinking Water, Waste Water, and Surface/Storm Water should be coordinated and that Olympia's Water System should be planned and managed from the perspective of the full hydrological cycle. We recommended that the subjects of Ground Water, Shoreline, and Climate Change should be added to this Goal. Finally, we suggested that the City should establish performance measures for Comprehensive Plan goals.

If you attend our April program, you can learn more about LOTT's approach and the ever expanding uses for treated waste water.

*Clydia Cuykendall
President*

TREASURE AND BAKE SALE

YES! It is time to start collecting and planning for our large summer fundraiser. The sale will be held in July rain or shine. Please keep those donations coming. I am so happy to hear of people stashing items away for our sale. The items that sell the best are household items, books, CD's, gift items, plants, glassware, jewelry, furniture and collectibles. People know our sale and plan to attend for quality household items and fun stuff.



Let's have a good time as we raise money for our favorite organization – The League of Woman Voters Thurston County. Call Fran Williams, 357-3334 or email fran-wil@comast.net if you have any questions.

Fran Williams

LWV MEMBERS TESTIFY AT STATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE WORK SESSION

Kim Abel, Vice-President, League of Women Voters of Washington (LWVWA) and Eve Johnson (LWVTC) testified at the December State Campaign Finance work session.

Senate Committee staff Edward L. Redmond explained how Supreme Court decision in Citizens United vs. Federal Elections Commission (CU) affects Washington State.

- Washington Law can no longer require that campaign moneys come from political action committees not corporate treasuries.
- Laws to register and report campaign activity and that prohibit raising money days before an election still stand.

Redmond summarized reaction by other states to the CU ruling.

Chairman Seabrook, Washington Public Disclosure Commission (WPDC), described law suits supporting and challenging campaign practices. Local cases were filed by one law firm, Bopp Colson and Gallant, according to Nancy Krier of that agency. She will work to prepare bills countering the effects of CU.

Craig Stalins of Washington Public Elections (WPE), a grass roots organization said States have the right to regulate elections. A constitutional amendment is needed to clarify the definition of "person".

Ms. Able covered initiatives, candidates, Voter Pamphlets and civic education. She urged the lawmakers to address these issues to "let voters know you care about them above any hint of secrecy."

Ms. Johnson urged legislators overcome current belief "that all elected officials are bought," by increasing the quality and availability of voter information."

Committee members lamented the critical tone of testimony.

Eve Johnson

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2010

January

Jane Gelnett
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Olympia, WA 98513

February

Lenna Haferland
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Jeannine Roe
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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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