



LWVTC VOTER

Volume 3, Issue 10

NOVEMBER 2009

CALENDAR

Saturday, Nov. 7

Education Fund Luncheon
Olympia Golf & Country Club
11:30

Thursday Nov. 19

LWVTC
Board meeting
Apollo's Restaurant
6 pm

Saturday, Nov. 21

LWVWA
Action Workshop
Bellevue

Thursday, Dec. 17

Holiday Party
Dorothy Marsh & Judith Barnes home
5:30 pm

Tuesday, Jan. 19

Lobby Day
Columbia Room
WA State Capitol

Inside this issue:

<i>2009 Action Workshop</i>	2
<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	3
<i>Civic Engagement Project</i>	3
<i>LWV POSITIONS Initiative 1033 Referendum 71</i>	4
<i>Peeler represents USA</i>	5
<i>A little League history</i>	5

Editor:
Dawn Brooks Gibbs
dawn8152@msn.com

LWVTC EDUCATION FUND LUNCHEON

WHEN: November 7, 2009, 11:30 am

WHERE: Olympia Golf and Country Club
3636 Country Club Drive NW



SPEAKER: Dr. Peter Goldmark
Commissioner of Public Lands

TOPIC: Capital Lake vs. Estuary

THERE'S STILL TIME TO RESERVE A SEAT

CONTACT:

Zena Hartung
951-8445 or zhartung@gmail.com

**IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN...
LWVTC ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

SAVE THE DATE

12/17/09

5:30 PM

MARSH/BARNES HOME

2009 LWVWA ACTION WORKSHOP

COST: \$25 PER VENUE PER PERSON - LUNCH PROVIDED

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH VENUES:

**BENTON/FRANKLIN COUNTIES, NOVEMBER 7, 2009
BELLEVUE, NOVEMBER 21, 2009**

**MAIL CONTACT INFORMATION, PAYMENT, AND VENUE CHOICES
TO:
LWVWA, 4730 UNIVERSITY WAY N.E., SUITE #720, SEATTLE, WA
98105**

DON'T MISS IT!



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!
LOBBY DAY**

JANUARY 19, 2010

COLUMBIA ROOM-WA STATE CAPITOL

Volunteer/Intern Coordinator needed

Volunteers are critical to the support of this organization. Currently LWVTC has community service program opportunities available, for which we had planned to utilize student volunteers/ interns. In order to participate successfully, however, we need an individual to manage these student volunteers and interns.

LWVTC is currently seeking to fill a Community Volunteer/Intern Coordinator position. This is a volunteer position; no compensation is involved.

The Coordinator will develop a volunteer team who will respond to the identified needs of LWVTC and will be responsible for the recruitment, training, placement and tracking of all volunteers involved. The Coordinator will also recruit and refer volunteers, recognize and promote volunteerism and maintain data and records.

If you are interested in helping us in this capacity, please contact Dawn Brooks Gibbs at dawn8152@msn.com or 360-455-4190.

Dawn Brooks Gibbs



Civic Engagement Project Focused on I-1033



In an effort to keep all of us informed about activities related to this exciting state wide project the committee is sending out weekly updates. Below is a section of the most recent note. Please read it and take appropriate action.

"This week, our focus is still I-1033. I just received my mail-in ballot, and I'm sure many of you got them today as well. It is with great urgency that we continue to educate neighbors and friends about I-1033. To make this easier, I have posted the link to our animated video about I-1033. [Click here.](#)

To share this video, please copy and paste this link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7RUqwfVaYPQ> into a new email and send it to everyone you know!

To post it to your Facebook page:

- Log in using your email address and password
- At the top of your page you will find a white box that reads, "What's on your mind?" Immediately below that box you will see several pictures. Click the picture that looks like a push pin tacked through 2 pieces of paper. This will allow you to post a link.
- Copy the link in this email and paste it into the box reading [http://](#)
- Click "Attach"
- Click "Share"

To post it to your Twitter page:

- Log in using your email address and password
- At the top of your page you will find a white box below "What are you doing?" Copy the link in this email and paste it into that box. You can also add a few words to let your followers know what the link is for.
- Click "Update"

Please let me know if you would like help starting your own Facebook or Twitter account.

Find us on Facebook under "LWV Washington" or join our group "League of Women Voters of Washington *Civic Engagement Project*"

Find us on Twitter under "lwwwacep"

Thank you for your efforts! Please write back to me with a copy to rosalielang@comcast.net. We feel great urgency to make this project effective throughout the state.

*Tatsuko Go Hollo
Civic Engagement Project Intern
League of Women Voters of Washington*

LWV POSITION — Initiative 1033

At our August 7, 2009 board meeting, the LWWWA Board agreed to join the No on 1033 coalition. To clarify our position opposing the initiative, the Board made an August email board decision to oppose I-1033.

At our regular board meeting on September 11th, we affirmed our opposition to

Initiative 1033.

Based on our position regarding fair, open and flexible taxes, the Board believes this initiative is none of these. I-1033 is misleading and complicated.

Limiting expenses through a rigid and arbitrary formula based on population growth and inflation, this initiative falls far short of being able

to fund even our current levels of health care, education and other basic services.

While I-1033 may sound good on the surface, limiting spending in this way will have many unintended consequences.

More information is available at: www.no1033.com

LWWWA
www.lwwwa.org

INITIATIVE 1033—VOTE NO

LWV POSITION — Referendum 71

At the biennial State Convention, League members voted to take a YES position on this referendum because of our position opposing discrimination. R-71 asks voters to ratify a bill that was passed in the 2009 Legislature and signed by the Governor. The bill provides equal rights equivalent to those of married couples to couples of the same sex and all unmarried senior couples in many areas including:

- ⇒ o Death benefits for partners of police and firefighters killed in the line of duty.
- ⇒ o Right to use sick leave to care for a seriously ill partner.
- ⇒ o Pension benefits for part-

ners of teachers and other public employees

- ⇒ o Right to workers compensation benefits if a partner is killed in the course of employment
- ⇒ o Victim's rights

The League has joined with a coalition to do voter education, voter pamphlet statements and action. For more information, please go to the Yes on R-71 website: www.approverefendum71.org.

LWV Positions:

League of Women Voters of the United States: "Secure equal rights and equal opportunity for all. Promote social and economic justice..."

League of Women Voters of Washington: "...no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination." Position in Brief: Action to achieve equal rights for all.

Websites for more information:

Approve =

www.approverefendum71.org

Disapprove =

www.protectmarriagewa.com

LWWWA
www.lwwwa.org

REFERENDUM 71 — VOTE YES

Maria Victoria Peeler represents U.S. at conference on Mercury

Maria Victoria Peeler, former Co-President of League of Women Voters Thurston County, was selected to represent the U.S. at the ninth International Conference on Mercury. She presented several papers, including one on the science and policy of Mercury in the US; another on product management, and a third on control of mercury releases from dental amalgam.

This International conference took place on June 7, 2009, in China. It's a big honor for Ms. Peeler to be selected to share her knowledge with the rest of the world.

The conference in China appears comprehensive. Some areas covered were:

- Mercury in aquatic systems;
- Health effects resulting from the synergy of mercury and other contaminants;
- Energy production and mercury emissions;
- Life cycle analysis of mercury in coal, gas, oil, and cement production;

Ms Peeler is employed by the Washington State Department of Ecology. She is Ecology's senior policy specialist responsible for emerging contaminants.

Recently, legislation was consid-

ered to reduce the danger of mercury. Online, there is a reference to Mercury in the Environment in Washington State.

Mercury is a natural occurring chemical, a useful element, but poses a real health risk. You can minimize this risk by reducing the use of mercury-containing products and properly disposing of mercury-containing waste. For further information on the health risks of mercury and how you can reduce your risks, visit the Washington Department of Ecology's website at www.ecy.wa.gov/mercury.

Eve Johnson

A LITTLE LEAGUE HISTORY

The **League of Women Voters** is an [American](#) political [organization](#) founded in 1920^[1] by [Carrie Chapman Catt](#) during the last meeting of the [National American Woman Suffrage Association](#) approximately six months before the [Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) gave women the right to vote.

It began as a "mighty political experiment" aimed to help newly-enfranchised women exercise their responsibilities as voters. Originally, only women could join the league; but in 1973 the charter was modified to include men. The league is a grassroots organization with chapters in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The league has approximately 150,000 members (as of 2006).^[2]

The league is [nonpartisan](#), refusing to endorse or oppose political candidates or parties at any level of government. The league does support or oppose many political issues after studying them and coming to a consensus on a position. The league works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and to influence public policy through education and advocacy, as well as through political lobbying of Congress.

The league is organized into two complementary halves: Voter service and citizen education; and program and action.

www.wikapedia.com

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THURSTON COUNTY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

For more information about the League's activities or membership call Marilyn Funk, 360-259-4424, or mail in the membership form below.

DATE:

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$_____

◇ **\$60 for my membership**

◇ **\$_____ for an Educational Fund Donation**

For Lifetime Membership and Scholarships contact Marilyn Funk, 360-259-4424.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ FAX NUMBER _____

LWVTC Newsletter:

The VOTER is 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

1063 Capitol Way South #212
Olympia WA 98501
Phone (360) 352-8220

2009-2010 DIRECTORIES NOW AVAILABLE