

# VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN

April 2009

The League of Women Voters of Pullman is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

## Officers

**Chair of the Board:** Sue Armitage, 332-4279; **Vice President:** Alice Schroeder, 334-2470; **Secretary:** June Crawford, 332-7186; **Treasurer:** Joan Folwell, 332-3946; **Voter Service:** Karen Kiessling, 332-4755; **Voter Editor:** Susan Daniels, 332-6699; **Finance Drive Chair:** Lenna Harding, 332-7749; **Membership/Hospitality:** Judy Krueger, 332-8208; **Observer Corps Chair:** Lucy Linden, 332-2755; **TRY Editor:** Lucy Linden, 332-2755.

## Meetings

### Early Learning Services

Date: Monday April 6, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Sue Kreikemeir from Early Learning Services will tell us about her organization.

Place: Home of Lucy Linden, 500 SE Crestview

Chair: Alice Schroeder, 334-2470

### Pullman League Annual Meeting

Date: Monday May 4, 6:00 p.m. supper, 7:00 p.m. meeting

Program: Catered supper at 6 p.m. (\$14), followed by the Annual Meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

Place: Home of Karen Kiessling, 510 SE Crestview

Chair: Sue Armitage, 332-4279

PLEASE BRING THIS VOTER TO THE MEETING. IT IS YOUR AGENDA.

## Board Meetings

**Monday April 27**

**Monday May 25**

Time: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Place: Home of Natalie Clark, 220 SW Mountain View Dr.

## **Other Meetings of Interest**

### **Pre-application Development Meeting**

Date: Wednesday April 22, 7:30 p.m.

Program: Planning Commission to meet with all interested parties to discuss the Pullman League's proposed required public meeting for new development projects.

Place: City Council Chambers

## **Early Learning Services, Monday, April 6 meeting**

**Alice Schroeder**

Sue Kreikemeier from Early Learning Services has graciously agreed to tell us about her organization for our Mon. April 6 meeting, 7:00-9:00 p.m. Early Learning Services also serves Latah County so I have invited members of the Moscow League to join us.

Early Learning Services provides help to disabled and developmentally delayed children as well as help for parents of normal children in both Whitman and Latah Counties. This meeting should be a good follow up on the Washington State Study on *Early Care and Education of Young Children* that we discussed in November, letting us know what is happening in our area. The Washington State League consensus has now been published by the LWVWA State Board based on the response from all the Leagues in the State that participated. I've printed it below. If you would like to review the Study, it is still on the LWVWA website ([www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org)). Click on the link in the upper right hand side. The first two links on the page that comes up are the unabridged and abridged versions of the study. If you would like to review a printed copy, Sue Armitage has several.

### **New Position for Early Care and Education of Young Children**

The LWVWA believes:

- The quality of the child's early care and education, birth-5, is critical to maximizing the child's future development.
- Parents are a child's first teachers.
- The State of Washington has an important role in assisting parents to ensure that all children have the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

The LWVWA believes the State of Washington should support:

- Home visiting and other educational programs for parents with young children
- Programs for children with special needs
- Increasing access to preschool programs for children age 3 – 5
- Quality child care programs for children age birth – five years
- Expanding the definition of Basic Education to include birth to five years \*\*\*
- Improvements to child care programs
- Encouraging public-private partnerships to expand the early care system

The State should marshal a variety of resources to fund these programs, such as federal funding, state funding, public-private partnerships and other financial sources.

\*\*\*This provision was returned to the committee for review of consensus data and possible revision. Not adopted by the board.

## **Pullman League Annual Meeting — Monday May 4**

**Karen Kiessling**

PRICE: \$14.00 for dinner. Catered supper plus coffee, tea or wine. If you wish you can come at 7 for the meeting only. The fellowship of the supper has been enjoyed by Leaguers for years and is a nice time to get acquainted since League meetings are always busy times with little visiting possible.

RESERVATIONS: Yes, for the dinner. Money may be paid at the door. Please have check or correct change. If you make a reservation and do not attend you must pay anyway because the treasury cannot be used for this purpose.

Business meeting will be as listed below in this April VOTER so PLEASE BRING THIS APRIL VOTER WITH YOU AS YOU WILL NEED IT FOR AN AGENDA.

See you for our annual meeting. If you have questions call Karen at 332-4755.

## **Pre-Development Meeting Coming April 22 at 7:30 p.m.!!!**

**Karen Kiessling**

Calling all Leaguers to attend the stakeholders meeting at the Pullman Planning Commission on April 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The Planning Commission has scheduled a special meeting for all interested parties in the topic to discuss the Pullman League's proposed required public meeting for all new development projects. The bones of the ordinance require any developer of new construction of a four-plex or more to be required to hold a public meeting to communicate the plans for the land to members of the public who attend the meeting. The requirements for this meeting are that the developer construct a sign, 4 foot by 4 foot and erect it on the parcel of land to be developed, place ads in the newspaper of record listing the project meeting and where and when it will be held, notify neighboring land owners of the meeting and then hold and record the meeting that takes place. The developer is required to explain the proposed development, answer questions and listen to comments made by members of the public. The developer is not required to change any plans because of the comments of community members. The goal of the meeting is to share information and concerns, suggest answers to potential problems and allow persons who support the proposal to voice that support.

The city, if this proposed ordinance becomes law, is required to create a file in its planning department archives that attests to the holding of the meeting by the developer. The proof of that is the recording of the meeting made at the time, a copy of the ad that appeared in the paper and a copy of the letter of notice. The city has no role other than to see that the pre-development requirements are met before any permits are issued.

We believe that this requirement will further communication and put a halt to the unhappy schisms that have developed in Pullman because information cannot be shared in a public meeting under Washington law after a plat has been filed and permits issued. League believes this is a positive step forward and the ordinance committee of the League asks every League member to be present at the meeting and willing to voice support for this change in city rules.

View the ordinance on the League webpage. If you have questions, please call Karen Kiessling or Joan Folwell or Judy Krueger or Helen Stiller or Paul Spencer. Turn out and help us move this forward for the good of the community.

## **League State Convention**

### **Let's Go To Tacoma For A Fabulous Time!!!!**

**Karen Kiessling**

**When:** May 29, 30, 31 (Memorial Day is a week earlier)

**Where:** The Murano Hotel, downtown Tacoma

**What:** Three days, two nights of meeting and talking with the most interesting group of people you will ever see gathered in one spot. League members from across the state who want to talk about issues, who want to share ideas, who have energy and wit and wonderful enthusiasm for good government, learning, laughing and making fine memories. Come meet some grand new friends who value our state, our region and our nation as you do and want to make it ever better.

**Who can go:** Pullman League sends three voting delegates, elected by us at the annual meeting on May 4. The Pullman Board wants to urge all members to consider going and if you want to go as an observer (that is anyone attending who is not a voting delegate,) the board will be offering a stipend to help pay your way. Voting delegates are paid up to \$300 per person to cover costs of the convention. If you would like to be a voting delegate, please call Sue Armitage and tell her that. We want to encourage you to do that. And we would love to have some of our new members attend.

**Special speakers and events:** This year Senator Maria Cantwell will be with us as our keynote speaker. You will hear first hand what is happening in that other Washington. And you can meet and enjoy visiting with Senator Cantwell.

There is also an emphasis on a new state League initiative on Civic Engagement. This will be a chance to learn what the state board has in mind for this statewide effort and what projects the Pullman League might want to consider taking on.

There will also be a gala evening on Saturday. The *Washington State League of Women Voters 2009 Good in Government Awards Gala* will be on Saturday from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the Washington State Historic Museum a block away from the Murano Hotel. After the banquet we will all walk to the museum where we will tour the special exhibit *Women's Votes, Women's Voices* which will have docents in period costumes leading tours and taking us on a walk through women's history in Washington State and the nation. Washington State gave women the right to vote in 1910, a decade before the federal government did so – an inspiring walk through history. Also there will be three awards – one to an elected official, one to an organization and one to a member of the media - who all embody the League's high goals for public service. Meet these outstanding citizens of Washington and congratulate them. This is a dessert and wine reception that you will long remember.

I hope you are interested in representing Pullman at the League convention. Ask any board member for information or tell any board member that you would like to go. We can work out the details. Circle the end of May on your calendar and start thinking Tacoma!

## **Results for NPVC Consensus Questions**

Pullman League members had difficulty understanding many of the *National Popular Vote Compact* Consensus questions, as have many other Leagues. Briefly, a majority agreed with statements in favor of the NPVC, while a seriously concerned minority felt a constitutional amendment was the only appropriate approach, so we were unable to reach consensus on questions 1,2,3,4, and 6. Question 5 did not make sense to us and we easily reached consensus to reject it. Consensus was reached on question 7 to agree with both statements:

- a) The NPV Compact will have problems being passed because of the need for congressional consideration and the need for action by so many states.
- b) A constitutional amendment to establish the direct popular election of the President and the abolition of the Electoral College will continue to have problems being passed.

Those in favor of supporting NPVC saw it as a way to keep the issue of the popular election of the president in the public's eye, and as a means to pressure the legislature to proceed with a constitutional amendment.

The consensus report form contains a Statement section, and our report included the following statement, "Once again LWVUS has damaged a good study with very poor consensus questions. This seriously damages the League's reputation. Please get members with experience in writing clear, concise questions to help in formulating consensus questions. Then test them on a small sample of Leagues before using them. Former college professors in our Pullman, WA group would be glad to help."

## Current Status of NPVC

On March, 13, the Oregon House and Washington State Senate passed National Popular Vote (NPV) legislation. With bipartisan support, the Oregon house passed the bill 39-19, including 8 Republicans. In New Mexico the State House has also voted to pass NPV legislation.

The NPV bill has been introduced in 47 states with a total of 1,246 state legislators endorsing the legislation. Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, and New Jersey have already passed the legislation and represent nearly a fifth of the necessary electoral votes to implement NPV.

## Observer Report Briefs

### Neill Public Library Board meeting, February 18, 2009

**Observer: Diane Gillespie**

Items of interest to the LWV:

- 1) Downtown parking for NPL staff and patrons continues to be an issue, especially since the new director recently received her first parking ticket ("Welcome to Pullman," said the Board). Geraldine de Rooy will talk to John Sherman about such options as parking passes and dedicated spaces.
- 2) Jim Belcher (Adult Services Librarian) presented his quarterly (and 2008) report, including updates on databases, volunteer book deliveries to homebound patrons in facilities, book and knitting club programs, Washington State Library Committee research on downloadable audio access for patrons, plans to host various artists, and ways to display two beautifully crafted train sets on long-term loan to the NPL.
- 3) Geraldine de Rooy will have fifteen minutes at the March 3rd Pullman City Council meeting so members will know who she is and so she can emphasize the NPL's four 2009 goals.

Prioritized, they are:

- a) a regular 20-hour circulation position to stabilize public service;
- b) restoration of the materials budget to 10% of the total library budget, and by one percent each year so that by 2015, it will be 15% (currently it is 7-8%);
- c) an on-site, scheduled technical computer position. In 1999, the library had 14 work stations and 1 server; it now has 33 work stations and 5 servers. The position shared with the Whitman County Library District is insufficient.
- d) a regular young adult/teen librarian to serve a burgeoning demand.

### Pullman Arts Commission, March 5, 2009

**Observer: Diane Smerdon**

I went to the meeting tonight and we spent the session folding cards which the Commission will be using for fundraising. PAC was also getting organized for their presentation to the City Council tonight. Items on the agenda are:

Banner approval

1. Establish a permanent "home" city department for the Pullman Arts Commission (Parks & Recreation, Public Works or Planning)
2. Incorporate art and the procuring of art into the city's long-term overall plan.

3. Establish the Pullman Arts Commission as the umbrella organization responsible for all proposed artistic changes, additions or modifications within the City of Pullman.
4. Incorporate a distinctive unifying expression or "branding" of Pullman.
5. Continue creating opportunities for the arts to thrive in Pullman.

Results should be in the City Council minutes.

## **Annual Meeting Agenda**

### **Sue Armitage**

This is our yearly chance to collectively consider what we've done in the past year and to think ahead to 2009-2010. We'll elect new officers, adopt a budget, and consider our communication with the state and national organizations. We'll want to discuss our strengths and our interests, and how can we make the best use of them locally in the coming year. This yearly meeting also provides an extended opportunity to catch up with the activities and concerns of other members, so do put the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Many of the specific items we will discuss are in this newsletter for you to read and consider before the meeting. We look forward to seeing you on May 4<sup>th</sup>!

### **Agenda**

Call to order and declaration of quorum (1/3 of 48 local members=16) – Sue Armitage

2008 Annual Meeting Minutes Report – June Crawford

Treasurer's Report – Joan Folwell

Finance Drive Report – Lenna Harding

Budget Report – Dorothy Swanson

Nominating Committee Report – Dorothy Swanson and June Crawford

Election of Officers

Election of Delegates to National Convention and State Council

Observer Corps Reports – Lucy Linden

Planning Ordinance Committee – Karen Kiessling

Suggestions for Local Program 2008-2009 Based on Our Positions – Sue Armitage

To allow plenty of time for discussion and visiting, we have decided not to squeeze in an invited speaker after our deliberations. All the more time to talk!

## Treasurer's Report: January 27 to March 23, 2009

### Joan Folwell

Local Account (1/26/09)	\$4642.29
Total Disbursements:	-\$1215.32 - legal fees, fin.drive, PO box, 2 Voters, check fee, h & j
Total Income:	<u>+\$1262.28</u> - dues, Bank of Whitman donation, LWV donations
<b>Working Assets:</b>	<b>Balance: \$4689.25</b>
Working Reserves:	Balance: \$3000.00

### Janice Miller Memorial Fund (04/21/08)

1/26/09 Balance	\$332.60
Total Disbursements	-\$332.60
Total Income:	<u>+0</u>
	Balance: \$0

### LWVWA Ed Fund

1/26/09 Balance	\$1420.00
Total Disbursements:	-0
Total Income:	<u>+\$ 710.00*</u>
	Balance: <u>\$2130.00</u>
	Total Assets: \$9819.25

\*not included in "Total Income" above

### Outstanding Items for 2008-09:

State Convention (May 2009)	\$900.00 (3 delegates)
The Voter (1 issue)	<u>\$ 13.00</u>
Total	\$913.00

## Annual Treasurer's Report 2008-2009\*

### Joan Folwell

#### INCOME

1. Dues	\$2,320.00
2. Contributions	\$2,285.00
3. Bank of Whitman TRY Donation	\$ 432.28
4. LWVWA Grant (for sashes)	\$ 360.00
5. Annual Meeting Dinner	<u>\$ 344.00</u>
	TOTAL \$5,741.28

#### OTHER ACCOUNTS

1. LWVWA Education Fund	\$2,130.00
2. Janice Miller Memorial Fund	\$ 0.00
3. Balance from 2007-2008	<u>\$1,947.97</u>
	TOTAL INCOME \$9,819.25

**EXPENSES**

1. Operation and Administration	\$ 334.47
2. State Council/Workshops	\$ 537.85
3. National Convention	\$ 604.84
4. LWVUS and LWVWA Per Member Payments	\$1,802.50
5. The Voter	\$ 47.94
6. They Represent You Brochures	\$ 435.51
7. Education Activities (voter services, sashes)	\$ 414.34
8. Affiliations (Pullman Chamber of Commerce)	\$ 110.00
9.. Position/Action Activities (pre-devel. Ordinance)	\$ 500.00
10. Annual Meeting Dinner	<u>\$ 258.72</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$5,046.17</b>

\*For period July 1, 2008 to March 23, 2009

**Finance Drive Report****Lenna Harding**

As of March 25th, we have received \$640 in the regular fund, \$675 in the Ed Fund, plus \$150 in the regular fund from TriState that we asked for in Dec. for a total of \$1465.

**Budget For July, 2009 – June 30, 2010****League Of Women Voters Of Pullman**

**Dorothy Swanson and Joan Folwell**

**EXPENDITURES**

A. Operating costs		\$ 300.00
General Supplies		
P.O. Box	75.00	
Thank you gifts	100.00	
Miscellaneous	125.00	
B. Administrative		\$ 390.00
President/Board	50.00	
Administrative Committees		
Finance	120.00	
Membership	110.00	
Public Relations	50.00	
(e.g.,Lentil Festival)		
Miscellaneous	60.00	
C. Delegates, Travel, Affiliations		\$1,860.00
National Conv. (6/10)*	1,200.00	
State Council **	300.00	
Workshops	200.00	
Chamber of Commerce	110.00	
Washington News Service	50.00 (From Ed Fund)	

D. Financial Support (38 PMP)***		\$1,664.40
State (17.00)	646.00	
National (26.80)	1,018.40	
E. VOTER		\$ 120.00
Supplies	75.00	
Postage	45.00	
F. Educational Activities		\$1,000.00
Publications	100.00	
Program	150.00	
Voters Service	300.00	
TRY	450.00 (From Pullman Ed Fund W/ WA State)	
G. Position/Action Activities		\$ 200.00
H. Working Reserves		\$3,000.00
I. Education Fund		\$1,630.00
		=====
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>\$10,164.40</b>

\*Includes accrued funds from 2008-09

\*\* Transportation @ \$0.15/mi for state meetings

\*\*\*48 members (2/1/09): 25 Individuals, 1 National, 8 Households, 1 extra ½ Households, 1 Student, 4 Life (According to figures sent by LWVWA)

## INCOME

A. Dues (47 Members 3/23/09 Including 4 Life Members)		\$2,222.50
26 Individual Members	1560.00	
7 Households	637.50 (7 full, 1 – ½)	
1 Students	25.00	
B. Contributions		\$1,400.00
Members	600.00	
Non-members	800.00	
C. Sales of Publications		\$ 100.00
D. Reserves		\$4,311.90
E: Education Fund		\$2,130.00
		=====
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$10,164.40</b>

## **Nominating Committee Report**

### **LWV OFFICES AND COMMITTEES, 2009-10**

#### **Dorothy Swanson and June Crawford**

First of all, the Nominating Committee would like to thank all board members who have served in the past year. LWV of Pullman has had an excellent corps of leaders who have been led by Chair of the Board, Sue Armitage. She has been ably assisted by Vice President, Alice Schroeder, and Voters Service Chair, Karen Kiessling. Alice has drafted many of the letters and statements that have been presented by League to government bodies. The work of the League has been well served not only by board members but also by committee members.

The Nominating Committee hopes that new members will be increasingly involved in committees and monthly meetings, and in that way become more knowledgeable about the work of the League and, if interested, become board members in the future.

#### **OFFICERS**

Chair of the Board – Sue Armitage  
 Vice President – Alice Schroeder  
 Secretary – Fran Law, Alice Schroeder, Debra Olson  
 Treasurer – Joan Folwell  
 Finance Drive Chair – Lenna Harding  
 Membership Records and Notices – Judy Krueger  
 Voters Service – Karen Kiessling  
 Action Chair – June Crawford  
 Voter Editor – Susan Daniels  
 TRY Editing – Lucy Linden

**COMMITTEES** (The following members have presently signed up for Committees. We hope there will be others.)

Voters Service – Karen Kiessling, chair, June Crawford, Mary Ann Boehme, Joan Folwell  
 Nominating – Dorothy Swanson, June Crawford  
 Budget – Dorothy Swanson, Alice Schroeder, Susan Daniels  
 Health Care – Lucy Linden, Susan Daniels  
 National Program & State Program – (no one at present); Local Program – Alice Schroeder  
 Observers Corps – Lucy Linden and many others  
 Recycling – Paul Spencer, Deb Olson

## **League of Women Voters of Pullman**

### **Positions For 2009-2011 Biennium**

1. **Whitman County Health Services:** Support for a public health program for Whitman County which promotes the physical and mental health of all residents of the county. *Action: Unit or public meetings on the problem of recruiting doctors (Resource, Dr. Duffy) and establishing a strong rehabilitation center in Pullman (Resource, Scott Adams).*

2. **Environmental Quality:** Support of policies and procedures which promote coordinated planning and method of enforcement for the conservation and development of land. Support of policies to promote coordinated planning and implementation of solid waste management procedures which conserve natural resources, are ecologically sound, and aesthetically pleasing. Support of policies to establish city-wide curbside recycling and composting, to maintain a Recycling Center, to hire a recycling coordinator, to encourage procurement of recyclable materials, and development of markets for recyclable materials. *Action to keep recycling going by establishing a committee to examine the current problem and possible solutions.*

3. **Whitman County Transportation:** Support of a system of transportation for the Pullman area which will adequately serve all segments of the population. *Action to support our bus and dial-a-ride system in the face of budget cuts.*

4. **City and Regional Planning:** Support of principles of planning, subdivisions and zoning. Support of more restrictions on developments for both contractors and private land owners. Support the principle of making land use decisions through a process that requires both a Planning Commission and City Council or County Commissioners. Support of growth within carefully defined areas for commerce and light industry. Support of annual review by the City Council of a Capital Improvement Program for the City. Additional consensus on development in 2002-2003 study. *Action: Continue to work for the adoption of the pre-development community meeting ordinance.*

5. **Local Government Budget and Finance:** Support (1) tax measures necessary to maintain an adequate level of financial support for Pullman City Government, (2) long-range Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Pullman, (3) finance implementation of long-range capital improvement. *Monitor*

6. **Schools:** Support of measures for a school program adequately financed by the State Basic Education Act. Support of special levies for specific purposes unhampered by a levy lid. Support of the following criteria for schools: (1) Given the present economic constraints of the levy lid law, basic education funding and fluctuating enrollment, it is important to have quality instructional programming and low student teacher ratio. (2) Energy efficiency (fuel & transportation) is an important criteria in considering use or lack of use of a building. (3) In any major redistribution of students, the maintaining of small neighborhood clusters of children should be considered. (4) Complete financial estimates of each option should be made available when considering changes in the use of facilities. *Action: Unit or public meeting on the WASL replacement test(s). Invite the new superintendent of Public Education, possibly working through the Pullman Superintendent's office.*

7. **City Government:** Support of the principle of separation of administrative and policy-making functions. *Monitor*

8. **Library Services:** Support of (1) a more equitable relationship of library employees compared to other city employees. (2) Additional sources of funding and any expansion to maintain at least the present level of services, (3) cooperative relationships with other area libraries while

9. maintaining local autonomy. *Action: invite the new director to speak at a unit meeting; then review our positions .*

## **New TVW Blog About State Government**

The LWVWA Action Chair, Barbara Bush, sent out the following announcement from Greg Lane, President of Washington State Public Affairs TV Network.

“Today, TVW launched [The Capitol Record](#), a new blog dedicated to providing information about Washington state government, including the Legislature, courts and state agencies.

“[The Capitol Record](#) is one of many new ways that TVW is expanding to keep people informed with unbiased coverage, consistent with our mission to increase civic engagement and education. [The Capitol Record](#) is a blog where anyone – from regular citizens to those deeply involved in the Legislative process – can get accurate, timely and consistent information about what state government is working on, written in an easy-to-understand, engaging way.

“The blog is written by [Niki Sullivan](#), who has covered state government for The Associated Press in Oregon and The News Tribune in Washington during her career as a newspaper journalist. She also produces Legislative Review, TVW’s daily show on the state Legislature. That show runs nightly at 11 p.m. and again at 7:45 a.m.

“Please take some time to check out [The Capitol Record \(http://www.capitolrecord.org\)](http://www.capitolrecord.org). We look forward to your thoughts and comments.”

## **Useful Pullman League Numbers**

**Yahoo Mailbox:** [lwvpull@yahoo.com](mailto:lwvpull@yahoo.com), password palouse

**Pullman League Website:** [www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org)., Local Leagues, Pullman