

# VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN

August 2008

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

### Back to League Potluck

Date: Monday September 8, 6:00 p.m.

Program: *League 101: Everything you ever wanted to know about League but were afraid to ask* with Barbara Seitle, president of LWVWA. Bring a friend.

Place: Home of Joan Folwell, 1301 Kitzmiller Rd. -- directions are given below

### Election Forums

Dates: Wednesday October 15, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (candidates)

Thursday October 16, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. (ballot issues)

Place: City Council Chambers -- come early and help.

Chairs: Joan Folwell, Elinor McCloskey, Bev Webster, Sue Armitage, June Crawford, and Karen Kiessling

### Early Childhood Education Study

Date: Monday November 3, 7:00 p.m.

Place: Home of Lucy Linden, 500 SE Crestview Dr.

Chair: Muriel Oaks

### Holiday Desert

Date: Monday December 8, 7:00 p.m.

Program: Recycle, Reuse, Reduce

Place: Home of Dorothy Swanson, 1055 NE Creston Ln.

Chairs: Dorothy Swanson, Joan Folwell, and Paul Spencer

### **National Popular Vote Compact Study**

Date: January 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Place: Home of Lorena O'English, 517 NW Sunset Dr.

Chair: Susan Daniels

### **State Program Planning**

Date: February 2, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Place: Home of Judy Krueger, 824 SE Edge Knoll Dr.

Chair: Alice Schroeder

### **Public Meeting on Voter Access in Whitman County**

Date: March 2, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Karen Kiessling

### **Program yet to be determined**

Date: April 6, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

### **Annual Meeting**

Date: May 4, 2009, 6:00 p.m.

Place: Home of Karen Kiessling, 510 SE Crestview

### **Board Meetings**

#### **Monday September 22, Monday October 27**

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

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

### **Other Dates To Note**

#### **Saturday September 7 -- Save the date!**

#### **LWVWA is Moderating a Candidates' Forum**

The LWVWA, with KOMOTV and the Seattle PI are pleased to announce that Governor Christine Gregoire and Dino Rossi have accepted our invitation for a forum/debate. The live broadcast will occur Saturday, September 20, 9 p.m. immediately following college football. In addition to KOMO in Seattle, the program will be broadcast live on station KXLY Spokane and KATU Portland, and perhaps a station in Yakima and the Tri Cities. Following the live broadcast, the program will be streamed on the KOMOTV website.

The forum will be issue oriented and formatted as a dialogue with voters. All questions will be approved as to format and content by the state League Voter Service Committee.

According to present schedule of the candidates, ours will be the first of four debates they have selected. We have the opportunity to set the tone. We are working hard to get it right.

Barbara Seitle, President LWVWA

### **Tuesday October 7, The 2008 Palouse Basin Water Summit**

Karen and Alice attended this summit last year and found it a good learning experience and recommend it. It would be useful for a couple of our members to attend this year. When you register, say you are a League member.

The 2008 Summit will be held Tuesday, October 7, in Moscow, at the Best Western University Inn. The theme for this year's summit is "Seeking Sound Science and Practical Solutions." The Summit will include morning, afternoon, and evening sessions featuring a variety of presentations and panel discussions.

Attendance at the Summit is free of charge, and lunch will be provided. If you plan to attend, please register in advance by visiting the Summit web site at <http://www.palousewatersummit.org> and clicking on the [Register](#) link.

### **Saturday November 8: Action Workshop for the Eastside in Richland**

Keep the state League VOTER with the picture inside of the Pullman Leaguers who walked in the Johnson Parade on July 4th. On the back of that Voter is the registration form for the Action Workshops being held in Richland on November 8 and in Bellevue November 15. Hang on to those forms for use in registering as soon as you know you can attend. The charge for the day in Richland, and the lunch provided, is \$20. Pullman members will car pool and can drive over and back on that one day.

## **Back to League Potluck**

**PULLMAN'S LEAGUE YEAR BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 8** with the first meeting of the fall. Joan Folwell welcomes us to share her splendid views of the Palouse hills at 6 pm on Monday, September 8th. Joan is hosting a potluck supper followed by a fun and informative meeting with our League State President, Barbara Seitle. Barbara is busy with her second 2-year term as State President and very knowledgeable about all aspects of League work. She remembers well starting out in League and all the things she did not know or understand, so hers is the voice of experience and understanding. She does a terrific presentation she calls: *League 101: Everything you want to know about League but were afraid to ask*, and we have asked her to do that for us. Does this sound like the best program you could have to introduce friends to the work of the League? Please think of someone to bring with you. They do not need to contribute to the potluck -- there is always much too much food. But please: 1. Invite them 2. Pick them up for the meal and meeting 3. Ask them to join League 4. Continue to bring them to subsequent meetings, and urge them to take on a small job to get involved.

You are the best advertisement we have for the League. You represent a person who gets questions answered about candidates as well as about city, county and state services. You ALWAYS vote, after having sought the best and clearest information you can to help you make your choices. You are a citizen who gives back. Use your personal power to increase the number of Pullman Leaguers who work to make Pullman a better city, Whitman County a better county and Washington a better state.

Remember: Invite someone to the potluck, bring a dish to share for supper and bring a prospective member with you to Joan Folwell's home, 6 pm, September 8.

Karen Kiessling

## **Directions to Joan Folwell's Home**

1. Proceed north out of Pullman on the Palouse highway (Route 27).
2. At the first intersection (Albion Road/Whelan Road), turn right onto Whelan Road.
3. Proceed approximately 200 feet and immediately turn right onto Kitzmiller Road (do not go past the McGregor Plant!).
4. The house is located 1.3 miles from the beginning of Kitzmiller on the right side of the road (look for the blue address on mailbox). Drive up the lane: the upper driveway leads to the front door and has three parking spaces and requires no stairs into the house; additional parking space is located on the lower drive and in front of the shed. Wear sturdy shoes to walk in the gravel.

## **Karen Kiessling on the Board of the LWV Education Fund**

Congratualtions to Karen Kiessling who was elected in July to a two year term on the board of directors of the LWV Education Fund. This board meets every other month and determines the actions and uses of the Ed. Fund and the distribution of the funds in the various unit ed. funds in WA state. There are ten members of this board and the President of the State LWV is the President of the Ed. Fund Board.

## **Voter Service Report**

We are off and running this summer with these early voter service events:

**July 4th** -- Leaguers Karen Barron, riding her Segway; Janet Kendall, Karen Kiessling, Alice Schroeder, Liann Schroeder and Dorothy Swanson walked in the Johnson Parade and handed out information on the Top 2 Primary election, August 19. We wore our new League sashes for the first time.

**August 7th** -- The Pullman League sponsored the visit of the Vote Smart Bus which was parked at the Olson Street entrance to Neill Library. Leaguers Bob Grunewald, Karen Kiessling, Lorena O'English, Alice Schroeder and Dorothy Swanson welcomed passersby and library

visitors to the bus, answered questions about voting and invited potential League members to our September 8 potluck meeting. We got excellent media coverage. (see Vote Smart Bus report) Wore our sashes.

**August 22nd** -- Leaguers were at the booth on Friday evening of the Lentil Festival -- again giving out voter registration materials and advertising our October forums as well as looking for potential members. Another chance to sport our League sashes.

**August 23rd** - Lentil Festival Parade -- Voter Service Committee members, wearing those sashes, walked in the parade and handed out election forum information.

**October 15 & 16** -- Election Forums. The Chamber of Commerce, The Daily News and the League of Women Voters are co-sponsoring these events. The Daily News has given us \$1000 of advertising space in the paper to inform and invite the public to attend. We thank them for their continuing support of an informed electorate.

Karen Kiessling, Voter Service Chair

## **Vote Smart Bus in Pullman**

The Vote Smart Bus, based in Phillipsburg, Montana, has come and gone and was a good experience for us. It provided fine visibility for the Pullman League during its 10 am to 2 pm visit and brought out media people interviewing, photographing and filming for the area news at 5 pm and 6 pm and 11 pm as well as newspaper stories.

On August 7th the bus rolled up to the entrance to Neill Library to the spot the city had coned off for it to park, just as the sky got gray and there was a hint of possible rain. The driver, Jon, and the crew, Tallie, opened a nice awning on the side of the bus and we set up a League table there beside the Vote Smart table. Karen, Bob, Lorena and Sue were there to give out literature on our forums, our League brochure *How to Pick a Candidate*, Supreme Court candidate information and voter registration forms. We helped several with name and address changes or registration. Visitors to the bus watched a short video about how to find voting records of elected officials and then had access to computers on the bus to do research.

Jon and Tallie were very good representatives of VOTE SMART. One of our League members, Lorena O'English, was the first member of staff hired by Vote Smart when it began. She had old snapshots of herself with Richard Kimball, the founder of Project Vote Smart, and great stories to swap with these two members of staff. The bus was going back to Missoula for the weekend and then on to Spokane on Monday. They log long hours as this bus began last October and has visited 33 states since then.

I believe this was a very good public relations and visibility vehicle for Pullman League. I am glad we took part.

If you would like to work on Voter Service issues, please call me. We would love to have you join the committee.

Karen Kiessling, Voter Service Chair

## Pullman League in the Lentil Festival

A few pictures and comments on the Lentil Festival. The LWV Booth on Friday evening was handsomely set up by Paul Spencer and we had lots of interest. Many needed to register or re-register because of a recent move to Pullman or because of a move within Pullman. The crowd was huge for the first couple of hours and then it thinned out to a trickle. While the time posted was 7-10 pm, Karen and I folded up everything by a little after 9 and another year I would recommend that LWV would plan to end by then. There were very few who came by after 9 pm and incidentally, it was beginning to get quite cool. The pictures show June and Karen at work.



**Parade:** we assembled on the Grand Avenue side of the Library and were #31 out of 81 entries in the Parade. As the picture indicates the walkers were Lucy Linden, Sue Armitage, Karen Baron, Karen Kiessling, and Dorothy Swanson. Karen Baron had a great sign on her segway and attracted lots of attention. If we could get more LWV participants, it might be good to have a couple of people carry the small LWV banner; otherwise we were all over the place since we, of course, had to go to the sidelines to hand out the flyers which gave the information about the dates of the October *Candidates and Issues Forums*. Karen K. had made 200 copies of the flyer but we ran out by the second block of



Main Street. As she noted, we could have used twice as many flyers. When we got to Kamiaken where the Mayor was announcing the entries we came together briefly and handed him the flyer and he recognized Karen Kiessling as a former Pullman Mayor. We all continued on to Reaney Park. Our walk lasted from c 11:15 to 11:40. The final entries did not get to the Park before 12:45. (I stayed in the Park to hear the Governor speak. She had been in the first car of the parade and so had lots of time to visit with people before speaking.)

Dorothy Swanson

## Observer Report Briefs

Neill Public Library Board meeting, July 16, 2008

Observer: Diane Gillespie

I was out of town for the meeting of June 18, but according to the minutes the NPL will receive another Gates Grant that provides matching funds to spend on patron computer equipment. As for the most recent meeting, the following items might be of interest of LWV members:

- 1) The Interim Director, Katheen Ahern reported a) that check-outs have increased 7% since last June and 8% in the year to date; b) NPL does not have a legal option to ban hand guns from the library; that item in the Rules of Conduct has been rewritten pending approval by the city attorney; c) a politically non-partisan Project Vote Smart bus will be stationed on August 7<sup>th</sup> near NPL with, apparently, the support of the LWV. Supporters of free speech, the NPL board nevertheless was concerned about the inflammatory tone of a description of bus activities that Kathleen Ahern received from schedule organizers. NPL's concern is having to respond, because of its proximity to the bus, to offended people. The Vote Smart pamphlet seems balanced, however; d) Judy Busch was confirmed as a new NPL Board member.
- 2) Design Effects (Joanne Anderson) will coordinate, with Marion Hood and Joanna Bailey, the furniture (paid for by the Shirrod endowment) for the new library wing.
- 3) Joanna Bailey has proposed a new outdoor seating area called the "River Nook" to accommodate two memorials. Funding will come from several sources.
- 4) Application from second round of ads for the new NPL director are due by August 18<sup>th</sup>. NPL plans to keep the position open until the right person is found.

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**Reminder: Members will be receiving a Pullman LWV membership dues notice early in September. Payment is due by September 30.**

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## Usefull Pullman League Numbers

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

Online VOTER: [www.lwvwa.org](http://www.lwvwa.org), Local Leagues, Pullman

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 366, Pullman, WA 99163

## Online Voter Information Resources

Remember our online voter information resources: [www.VOTE411](http://www.VOTE411) and *Elections 101* on the website [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org)

League of Women Voters  
P.O. Box 366  
Pullman, WA 99163