

VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN

October 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:** Fran Law, 334-3002, Backup: Deb Olson, 332-2114; **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; **Action Chair:** June Crawford, 332-7186; **TRY Editor:** Lucy Linden, 332-2755.

Meetings

General Election Forum

Date: Monday October 5, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Program: Forum on candidates and issues.

Place: City Council Chambers. Members please come 15 minutes early to help greet people and set up.

Chairs: Joan Folwell, 332-3946 and Diane Smerdon, 334-5413

Recycling

Date: Monday November 2, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Program: Panel discussion on recycling issues; see article below

Place: Neill Public Library, Hecht Room

Chair: Deb Olson

Holiday Meeting

Monday December 7, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Program: Port District Commissioners & Christmas Dessert

Place: Home of Dorothy Swanson, 1055 NE Creston Lane

Chair: Alice Schroeder, 443-2470

Board Meetings

Mondays October 26, November 23

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

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

Other Events of Interest

Visits to Recycling Centers

Date: Week of October 12th; Date to be announced

Place: Pullman and Moscow; more information to follow

Chair: Deb Olson

LWVWA Action Workshop

Date: Saturday November 7

Program: See article below

Place: Benton/Franklin Counties

Contact: Alice Schroeder, 334-2470

Foley Institute Forum

Date: Tuesday December 1, 6:30 p.m.

Program: State Legislators discuss the upcoming legislative session

Place: WSU campus, site to be announced

Contact: Sue Armitage, 332-4279

Public Meeting and Panel on Recycling

On November 2 at the Hecht room of the library there will be a recycle and re-use meeting. This is an opportunity to learn about available choices in handling our trash. There will be a panel of experts:

Devon Felstead, Pullman Disposal Service

Rick Finch, WSU

Andy Boyde, Moscow Recycling

Elizabeth Siler, Bring Your Own Bags

(Debbie Olson hopes to add Judy Gray of Whitman County Solid Waste to the panel.)

Each panel member will give a short introduction about his or her organization or area of interest. The panel will then answer questions from the audience.

To learn about current local recycling practices we are planning to have tours of the Pullman, Moscow, and WSU recycling facilities (and perhaps the Whitman County site) on either Wednesday Oct. 14, or Friday Oct. 16. We will distribute a final schedule for these tours during the week of Oct. 5.

Foley Institute Forum

PREVIEW OF A COMING ATTRACTION: On December 1 at 6:30 on the WSU campus (location not yet decided), our state legislators will discuss the upcoming legislative session in a meeting arranged by the Foley Center and cosponsored by the Pullman League. We'll send more details as the event gets closer.

LWV Display In Neill Library In February 2010

For February 2010 the LWV of Pullman has the Neill Library Display Case to use. 2010 is the 60th Anniversary of the founding of LWV of Pullman; it is also the 90th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution; and it is the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Vote in WA State. WA was 10 years ahead of the national amendment! I have worked on LWV displays several times for past anniversaries but invite anyone interested in any of these anniversaries to join me on the committee to arrange this display in Feb. 2010. Please let me know if you are interested. Dorothy Swanson, denktswanson@gmail.com

Lentil Festival Parade

Diane Smerdon

The League of Women Voters of Pullman is excited about its 60th anniversary in 2010, along with the State's 100th Anniversary. Over 15 Leaguers turned out to walk in Pullman's Grand Parade for the 21st Annual National Lentil Festival on August 22. Our parade members celebrated women's "firsts" by carrying signs paying tribute to eleven trail-blazing women of the 20th and 21st century. Member Karen Barron led our contingent on a Segway with banners proclaiming "WE'VE COME A LONG WAY LADIES" and "THE FIRST: WASHINGTON WOMEN VOTING SINCE 1910". Two male members carried our League banner announcing "NOT 4 WOMEN ONLY". Fliers inviting membership and attendance at upcoming forums were distributed and a good time was had by all. We are hoping that our increased visibility will

bring us numerous new members this year. Ultimately, our efforts were further rewarded as the League of Women Voters of Pullman won the Non-Commercial Sweepstakes Award voted on by the 2009 National Lentil Festival Committee.



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Parade Participants: Back Row -- Karen Kiessling, Sue Armitage, Dick Law, Paul Spencer; Middle Row -- Janet Kendall, Karen Barron, Lorena O'English, Janet Miller, Susan Daniels, Diane Smerdon and her grandson Nicholas Smith; Front Row -- Fran Law, Ruth Brown, Alice Schroeder, Shelley Jones

New Members

Fran Law

Pullman League welcomes four new members: Shelley Jones, Dick Law, and Peg and Bill Scuderi, and a new National member in Colfax, Ronald Braun. Here are brief bios of three new members and more will follow in the next VOTER.

Dick Law was born and grew up in Nebraska, received his BA and MA degrees in English from the University of Nebraska and his Ph. D. from Washington University in St Louis (1973). He has lived in Pullman and worked as a professor and administrator at WSU since 1970, and retired this past July. He enjoys reading about World History, US history and politics, and literature. He is married to Fran Law, and has four grown children and three granddaughters, whom he enjoys seeing as often as possible.

Peggy Scuderi was born and raised in Chicago, and moved to Pullman in 1970. With a BA in Education and MA in Special Education, she was the director of Special Education in the Moscow School District for many years, and taught classes at WSU. She is now retired. She and Phil raised four children and have four grandchildren, whom they visit often in Montana. Peggy loves to garden, sew and scrapbook, along with reading.

Phil Scuderi was born and raised in Chicago, and moved to Pullman with Peggy in 1970 to work at WSU in Information Technology. He is an expert in Systems Management and Critical Thinking, and taught classes at WSU. A college athlete and avid sportsman, Phil spent many years coaching club soccer. He enjoys golfing and staying in shape. He has made many improvements to their house and yard. He also enjoys spending time with his four grown children and grandchildren.

2009 General Election LWVWA's Positions on R-71 and I-1033

Yes on Referendum 71

No on Initiative 1033

Information about the statewide ballot issues is now available on the web.

Two good sources with somewhat different information:

- League of Women Voters of Seattle website: www.seattlelwv.org
<<http://www.seattlelwv.org>> , click on *Library* and *October 09 Voter* (starting on page 14).
- Secretary of State's website, Elections information: <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/elections/>,
and 2009 General Election Online Voters' Guide: <http://wei.secstate.wa.gov/osos/en/PreviousElections/2009/GeneralElection/Pages/OVG_20091103.aspx>

Health Money and Fear

Pullman League obtained a copy of the DVD, Health Money and Fear which was made by Dr. Paul Hochfield, an emergency room physician. In it he interviews other doctors and discusses the problems with our health care system. Several of our League members have watched it and found it interesting and informative. You can borrow the DVD from Neill Library or watch it online at www.ourailinghealthcare.com.

LWVWA has recommended the following list for Health Care Information:

Critical Condition: How Health Care in America Became Big Business and Bad Medicine
by Donald L. Bartlett and James B. Steele

The Truth about Drug Companies: How They Deceive Us and What to Do about It by Marcia Angell, M.D.

Bleeding the Patient: The Consequences of Corporate Health Care
by David Himmelstein, M.D., Steffie Woolhandler, M.D., M.P.H., with Ida Hellander, M.D.

Health Care Meltdown: Confronting the Myths and Fixing Our Failing System
by Bob LeBow, M.D., M.P.H.

Falling through the Safety Net: Americans without Health Insurance by John Geyman

Hostile Takeover: How Big Money & Corruption Conquered Our Government – and How We Take It Back by David Sirota (Chapters on Health Care and Prescription Drugs)

Screwed: The Undeclared War against the Middle Class by Thom Hartmann (Chapter on Health Care)

Critical: What We Can Do About the Health Care Crisis by Tom Daschle

Do Not Resuscitate: Why the Health Insurance Industry is Dying, and How We Must Replace It by John Geyman

Money-Driven Medicine: The Real Reason Health Care Costs So Much by Maggie Mahar

A Second Opinion by Arnold S. Relman

The Social Transformation of American Medicine by Paul Starr

Websites for Referencing Health Care Information

Families USA	www.familiesusa.org
The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation	www.kff.org
Physicians for a National Health Program	www.pnhp.org
Institute of Medicine	www.iom.edu
National Coalition of Health Care	www.uhcan.org
Healthcare – NOW	www.healthcare-now.org
Public Citizen	www.citizen.org
Get Sick, Go Broke	www.getsickgobroke.org
Stateline.org	www.stateline.org
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	www.cdc.gov
Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development	www.oecd.org
Health Care for All – Washington	www.healthcareforallwa.org
Health Care for America Now	www.healthcareforamericanow.org
Archimedes Movement	www.wecandobetter.org
2008 Presidential Fundraising	www.opensecrets.org
Healthy Washington Coalition	www.healthywacoalition.org
Third World Traveler	www.thirdworldtraveler.com/HealthHealthwatch.html
AARP	www.aarp.org

New Book

Sue Armitage

JUST PUBLISHED: *Women's Votes, Women's Voices: The Campaign for Equal Rights in Washington*, a book that tells the story of the successful 1910 campaign for woman suffrage in Washington, as well as its context and consequence. It sets the story in the flourishing women's club movement of the late 19th century, and follows with the history of Washington women in politics since 1910. Sponsored by the Washington Women's History Consortium <www.washingtonwomenshistory.org>, the book honors the centennial of woman suffrage in 1910, and augments the exhibit of the same name that will be at the Museum of Arts and Culture

in Spokane in October, 2010. Lavishly illustrated and with a very readable text, this is a book to treasure. It is available now from the WSU Press for \$24.95 plus tax.

LWVWA Action Workshop Coming Up

LWVWA will hold two Action Workshops for members, one in Bellevue, and one in Benton/Franklin Counties in Eastern Washington for those of us on this side of the state. Pullman League lobbied long and hard to get a workshop on this side of the state, so we encourage you to attend. Members who have attended previous workshops have come back energized and enthusiastic. If you would like more information or are interested in attending, contact Alice Schroeder, 334-2470.

The LWVWA has this to say about these workshops:

We hope YOU will be there at one of them. Perhaps we should call these meetings “Call to Workshops” or “Activating Our Base Sessions.” We know that messages from constituents and contacts with legislators do make a difference. League can truly affect outcomes if our members all around the state weigh in on the issues we care about. That’s why it’s so important for you to attend one of the workshops. They are designed to do two things: give us information about the issues that will be key in the next legislative session and show us ways we can each, from our own homes, have an impact on legislation we care about. We’ll hear from some elected officials and some of our own Lobby Team. We’ll share ideas that have worked in different communities. We’ll have ample opportunity to ask questions. If you have never sent an email to your state senator or spoken to your representative in the supermarket, or even if you’ve done both many times, come to the Action Workshop to learn how to do it more effectively.

Observer Report Briefs

Pullman Regional Hospital Board, July 1, 2009

Observer: Helen Stiller

The hospital has been involved in an extensive strategic planning process.

A new Clinical Administer, Pete Peters started work on June 22. He will begin working with Palouse Pediatrics on developing a LLP which is a limited liability partnership with the hospital. On line bill paying will soon be available.

The website www.pullmanregional.org has been revised.

There was a discussion and update re: the relationship between Avalon Care Center and our future nursing home. Avalon is still interested in some sort of affiliation with the Hospital district.

Scott’s goals for the year are to be more acknowledging of the good work done by individual Employees. He intends to be more active in the State Organization. He received a glowing evaluation from the Board for his leadership during the last 6 Months. He will be reviewed again in 6 mo....

This was part of the strategic planning session. At this point they were reviewing the wishes of each department and determining what items or ideas got a thumbs up and which ones were to be deleted. I talked with Trish Grantham, Chair of the Board to find out more about the Hospital Strategic Planning Process. It proceeds as follows:

January—Each department develops and prioritizes its departmental desires and goals.

May---The departmental desires are then passed on to the leadership team which consists of the following who review and begin to prioritize:

Scott Adams CEO

Jeanne Eyler-Chief Clinical Officer

Bernadette Berney- Human resources director

Dorkes Hertzler-Director Quality and Knowledge management

Megan Guido –Director of Development/Foundation

Rich Caggiano,MD Chief Medical Officer

Steve Febus-Chief Financial Officer.

The next step is an all Staff meeting where everyone gets together to prioritize various departments' needs, desires and the cost factors. The major decisions are then made at a Board meeting in July with the leadership team's advice and the Board making the final decisions.

Useful Pullman League Numbers

Contact Us: lwvpull@yahoo.com

Online VOTER: www.lwvwa.org/Pullman