



# VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN WASHINGTON

[www.lwvpullman.org](http://www.lwvpullman.org)

August 2014

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

**Executive Committee:** Chairman – Paul Spencer, 332-6699; League Voice – Karen Kiessling, 332-4755; Information Coordinator – Anne Lewis, 334-1075; **Secretary:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756, Backup: Jackie Miyasaka, 332-1248; **Treasurer:** Joan Folwell, 332-3946; **Voter Service Chair:** Deb Olson, 332-2114; **Voter Editor:** Susan Daniels, 332-6699; **Budget Chair:** Pat Ager, 334-3374; **Finance Drive Chair:** Lenna Harding, 332-7749; **Membership Chair:** Janet Kendall, 432-3368; **Scheduling Chair:** Barbara Hammond, 332-4104; **Observer Corps Chair:** Anne Lewis, 334-1075; **TRY Editor:** Lucy Linden, 332-2755; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer: 332-6699; **Community Update Editor:** Diane Smerdon, 334-5413; **Poverty Study Chair:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **Nominating Chair:** Deb Olson, 332-2114.

Meetings and Events

**Please check the date and place when you get the meeting notice a week before the meeting.**

## Lentil Parade

Date: Saturday August 23rd , meet at 10:45 a.m.  
 Program: March in the Lentil Parade.  
 Place: Meet on the west side of Neill Library  
 Contact: Deb Olson, 332-2114

## Back to League Potluck

Date: Monday September 8, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
 Program: Potluck supper followed at 7:00 p.m. by information on the Poverty Study  
 Place: Mary Shirazi's home, 1525 S. Wadleigh Dr. ([directions on page 3](#))  
 Chair: Paul Spencer, 332-6699

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## **Brown Bag**

Date: September 18, Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Program: County Commissioners Dean Kinzer and Art Swannock discussing the state of the county

Place: Congregational Church, Opal and Campus, Pullman

Contact: Deb Olson, 332-2114

## **Meetings for Poverty Study**

Date: Second Tuesday of the month: August 12, September 9, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Program: Presentations 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. Followed by a working meeting until 7:00 p.m.

Place: The Community Action Center classroom, 350 SE Fairmont, Pullman

Contact: Mary Collins, 509-592-6929

## **Board Meetings**

Date: Wednesday August 27, September 24, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Place: Daily Grind, back room

Chair: Paul Spencer, 332-6699

## **Other Meetings of Interest**

### **Game Day**

Date: Wednesday September 10, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Program: Games, conversation, caffeine, and light snacks

Place: Susan and Paul's home, 1745 SW Baldwin Dr.

Contact: Susan Daniels 332-6699 or [susanhaniels@gmail.com](mailto:susanhaniels@gmail.com).

## **Coming Up Election Forums**

Dates: Tuesday October 21 in Colfax

Wednesday October 22 in Pullman

## **Back to League Potluck – September 8<sup>th</sup> Karen Kiessling**

WHY should you attend?

Well, this is a bonus. Mary is sharing her spectacular view with us. It really is the place to be to appreciate the Palouse Panorama. Don't miss it.

Secondly, we will get an update on how the poverty study is moving forward. Find out how we actually plan to gather the information on agencies and others who provide services for the poor, learn how we will become good information gatherers and then take part in a training exercise to see how it might play out.

Every interview needs two people so even if you are not interested in being an interviewer, your help as

a sidekick, a second pair of ears at an interview, is important.

Let us begin a great year together with a large turnout for Back to League night. Bring a friend along to see how the League works. And be ready to enjoy the evening together.

**DIRECTIONS TO SHIRAZI HOME:** At the corner of Grand Avenue and Crestview, heading toward Lewiston, turn right up Crestview passing between Wysup Motors and Living Faith Fellowship Church. Take the first left turn off Crestview onto Wadleigh Drive. Follow Wadleigh Drive to the very top of the hill, it winds a lot, until you arrive at 1525 -- the number is on the mailbox at the curb. The house is tan with dark brown trim and a driveway leading to a three car garage is the prominent feature. Park on the street unless needing to be closer to the house due to mobility problems. You will be directed around the house to the back deck where we will be meeting.

RSVP: Karen Kiessling, [kkiessling@hotmail.com](mailto:kkiessling@hotmail.com) or 332-4755, please so we have enough chairs. If you have a lawn chair that is easy to bring, please do so.

## **Call For Lentil Parade Participants**

### **Deb Olson**

Pullman League is marching in the Lentil Festival Parade on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. This is a wonderful opportunity for League visibility. This year we are celebrating women's history and achievements with signs about women's history that we will carry. In 2015, the Pullman League celebrates its 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Let's kick-off the celebration with a good showing at the parade.

For marchers we have a very snazzy sash and/or hats to wear. We try to dress in red white and blue, but not required. We'll meet on the west side of Neill Library at 10:15 a.m.

If you are interested please do let Deb know so she can gather enough signs etc.

Contact Deb Olson 332-2114 or 595-0333 or [olsonbones@aol.com](mailto:olsonbones@aol.com)

## **Brown Bag (Noon Meetings) Schedule**

### **Deb Olson**

Our informal noon meetings will be starting up in September. They will be the third Thursday of the month from noon to one p.m. The first four meetings are set.

September 18<sup>th</sup> - Two County Commissioners, Dean Kinzer and Art Swannock, are coming to talk about the state of the county. Michael Largent has a conflict but will be the speaker in November. Come with questions.

October 16<sup>th</sup> – Brett Haverstick from Friends of the Clearwater will give a presentation about the Wilderness Act (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary). The Wilderness Act has been described as Nature's Bill of Rights. There are numerous Wilderness areas in Washington and Idaho. In the changing political climate there are constant threats to the wilderness.

November 20<sup>th</sup> – Michael Largent (who was once a legislative aid) will come and talk to us about effective communication with our legislators.

December 11<sup>th</sup> - The Citizens Climate Lobby, a grass roots organization concerned with climate change, will talk about a proposed carbon fee (at national level) and other issues about climate, and what we as citizens can do about it. This is tentative and may be moved to January.

If there is a subject you are passionate about or even just mildly interested in that you think would be good for a noon meeting contact Deb Olson 332-2114 or 595-0333 or olsonbones@aol.com

## Planning Meeting Report

### Alice Schroeder

Ten a.m. Monday July 14 found 15 Pullman League of Women Voters members meeting in the yard of Susan Daniels and Paul Spencer. A wonderful birch tree kept us surprisingly cool for such a hot day. Deb Olson and Mary Collins brought us up to date on the July forums and the Poverty Study, respectively. We then debated a host of good program ideas, ending up with the calendar printed below. The meeting ended with a discussion of Brown Bag ideas and Observer Corps plans followed by a delicious salad potluck. Many, many thank you's to all the new and newer members who came and to Susan and Paul for an excellent meeting.



### 2014-2015 LWV Pullman Calendar

Date	Program	Chair	Place
Sat. Aug. 23	Lentil Parade	Deb Olson	Downtown
Mon. Sept. 8	Welcome Back Potluck	Paul Spencer & Mary Collins	Mary Shirazi's Home
Tues. Sept. 23	National Voter Registration Day	Deb Olson	TBA
Tues. Oct. 21	Voters' Forum	Deb Olson	Whitman County Library, Colfax
Wed. Oct. 22	Voters' Forum	Deb Olson	Pullman City Hall
Mon. Nov. 3	City & County Planning	Alice Schroeder & Mary Collins	Hecht Room or Umqua Bank
Mon. Dec. 1	Update on Schools	Anne Lewis	Hecht Room or Umqua Bank
Mon. Jan. 12	State and Local LWV Planning	Paul Spencer	Hecht Room or Umqua Bank

Fri. Feb. 13	LWVPullman and LWVUS Anniversary Celebration	Libby Walker & Anne Lewis	Old Cordova Theater?
Mon. March 2	Voting Rights	Paul Spencer & Janet Kendall	Hecht Room or Umqua Bank
Mon. April 6	Local Effects on safety of Gun, Marijuana and Health Care Legislation	Dawn Baerlocher & Lucy Linden	Hecht Room or Umqua Bank
Mon. May 11	Annual Meeting and Poverty Study Update	Paul Spencer Mary Collins	Private Home

## Report on the July 21<sup>st</sup> Primary Forum

### Deb Olson

About forty people attended the forum. Thanks to all the League people who came and helped. One of the three candidates who agreed to come, Tom Horne a Republican, had to cancel at the last minute which left two candidates to speak, Joe Pakootas (D) and Dave Wilson (I). After their introductory remarks they answered questions from the audience for an hour and a half. The July 22 Daily News carried a front page report on the forum.

## Report on the Johnson Parade

### Deb Olson

The League participated in the Johnson Parade on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July again this year and the weather cooperated giving us a comfortable walk. It was fun. The parade marches through town one way, then turns around and goes back through the other way so we got to see a lot of the other entries as we passed them on our way back. There were a lot of families participating, and a favorite, the bagpipers. We had nine marchers, including three volunteers, David Lewis, Christina James, and Lola Baerlocher. We gave out 500 pencils with a label about the upcoming primary forum and they went quickly. Many thanks to our volunteer walkers and League participants: Dawn Baerlocher, Anne Lewis, Susan Daniels, Paul Spencer, Alice Schroeder, and Deb Olson.



## **Update on the Poverty Study**

### **Shelley Jones**

The Poverty Study is making great strides this summer. We have plans in the Fall for interview training. We hope you will take part in the training as we need Leaguers willing to participate as a partner in interviews. We want all of our interviews conducted in pairs. We hope to see you there!

We need You! We need you to volunteer to assist with interviews, take on a small roll in a sub-group, or come learn with us. We meet on the 2nd Tuesday of month from 5:00 p.m. To 7:00 p.m. at the Community Action Center. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Shelley Jones at [Shelley.jones@gmail.com](mailto:Shelley.jones@gmail.com).

These meetings are great fun and a great way to share ideas. We hope to see you at our next meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup>!

## **Report on Summer Game Day**

### **Anne Lewis**

On June 24, 10 league members gathered at Anne Lewis' home to talk, laugh, eat, and play a short game of Apples to Apples. Although an official vote was not taken, I suspect that, for most, a plate of Dawn's mixed berry dessert was the highlight. For those who have not yet attended one of these low-key activities, please consider joining us next time, September 10<sup>th</sup> at Susan and Paul's home, 1745 SW Baldwin Dr. For more information, call Susan at 332-6699 or [susanhdaniels@gmail.com](mailto:susanhdaniels@gmail.com).

## **Meet our New Member**

Welcome to new member Bertie Weddell. Janet sent her some questions which she has graciously answered so we can get to know her a little better. More new member profiles will be shared as they are received.

### **Bertie Weddell**

I grew up in Manhattan, went to college at the University of Chicago, and came to Pullman in 1973, with my husband Jim Weddell, to get a Masters in Wildlife Biology. Jim and I chose to remain in the Palouse, where we raised our two children. Our son Wes, now 33, is a musician in Seattle, and our daughter Angie is an engineer in Vancouver, BC by day and a swing dancer by night.

Subsequently, I got a Ph.D. in Zoology from WSU, working on the demographics of ground squirrels in cultivated fields of the Palouse. After receiving my doctorate, I formed a consulting business specializing in natural resource management, and also taught Conservation for WSU's distance degree program. In 2011, I went to work at WSU as a Research Associate for the Center for Sustaining Agriculture and Natural Resources.

I joined the League because of my interest in working on the Poverty Study. I am particularly interested in working on food security. I welcome this opportunity to combine my professional interests with my social concerns.

## IN MEMORIAM



NATALIE CLARK, 96, member of the League of Women Voters of Pullman for more than 60 years, died on 22 June.

Natalie was an amazing, positive, energetic, resourceful and fun loving woman. If you read this article about her you will find examples of all of those qualities. Firstly Natalie was grateful for her life, her home and family, her ability to tackle numerous problems and contribute to their solutions. She served for many years on the Pullman Planning Commission and her grace, her wit and her desire always to find a solution that preserved the goodness of the Palouse while serving the needs of the citizens was a hallmark of her accomplishments there.

She served the League of Women Voters of Pullman in every office we have and as secretary to the state board of the League. She did this for many years as well. She had a brilliant smile and her face would light up with joy when she saw a friend or entered a meeting. She was irresistible and had a way of charming every stranger. I remember traveling with her to a regional meeting where we went to a show. A famous singer was performing and when he walked into the audience to serenade one woman he went immediately to Natalie and flirted with her as he sang. She beamed and laughed and charmed everyone. That was a typical event if you went anywhere with Natalie. She was enormous fun.

She had an amazing life. In 1939, while in college in Massachusetts, Natalie sailed for Geneva, Switzerland, to attend a French-speaking immersion school. The proprietors of the school, fearing an invasion, fled the school, abandoning their pupils. Five of those stranded students, one of whom was her future husband Eugene Clark, bicycled across France and the Netherlands to reach the last passenger ship home before war broke out across Europe.

Natalie married Eugene in 1942 and moved to Washington, DC, where she was involved in top-secret radar research at MIT, so was unable to disclose where she worked even to her husband. In 1957 she and Eugene moved to Pullman when he became dean of the College of Economics and Business at WSU.

Natalie and Eugene had four sons and one daughter. In her last years Natalie hosted the board meetings of the League in her living room, always greeting us with smiles and welcome. She was amazingly generous in her support of the League in every way, with work and with her financial support as well.

In October of 2007 four League members were honored with a luncheon to thank them for more than 50 years of membership. Those four women were Kay Buss, Dorothy Swanson, Betty Nyman and Natalie Clark. Three former Mayors came to thank them for their service to the voters of Pullman.

Natalie was the last of that group of life members to die. We are grateful indeed for their work for the League, for Pullman and for the state of Washington.

**Karen Kiessling**

**Read your VOTER with your calendar next to you so you write in the meetings immediately. You are what makes the League a success.**