



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

April 2015

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

Guns and Gun Violence

Date: Monday April 6, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Program: Forum on Guns and Gun Violence in our Local Communities

Place: Umpqua Bank, 225 N. Grand Ave, Pullman

Contacts: Judy Stone, 509-878-1519 and Dawn Baerlocher, 503-239-1071

Annual Meeting

Date: Monday May 11, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Program: See [Agenda Page 9](#)

Place: Home of Karen Kiessling, 510 SE Crestview Dr.

Contact: Paul Spencer, 332-6699

Brown Bags

Dates: Third Thursdays, Noon – 1:00 p.m.

Programs: April 16 – Pullman Parks and Recreation Update
May 21 – proposed: Biking in the Palouse

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Place: Congregational Church, Opal and Campus, Pullman
Contact: Deb Olson, 332-2114

Poverty Study Meetings

Date: Second Tuesdays: April 14, May 12, 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: Third Wednesdays: April 15, May 20, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Place: Daily Grind, back room
Chair: Paul Spencer, 332-6699

LWVWA State Convention

Date: June 12 - 14
Place: Yakima, WA
Program: Plan the LWVWA agenda for the coming year. Convention is a great place to connect with other Leaguers from around the state, share experiences, and learn new skills.

Social Events

Game Day

Date: Thursday April 2, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.
Place: Home of Paul and Susan, 1745 SW Baldwin Dr.
Program: Friends, food, conversation and a game
Contact: Anne Lewis, 334-1075 or Susan Daniels, 332-6699

Action Log

March 2015 – Karen Kiessling presented Pullman City Council with the 2015-2016 TRY
April 2015 – Karen Kiessling sent a letter to WSDOT supporting rail banking for the sections of rails between Pullman and Colfax and Pullman and Fallon.

April Meeting: Guns and Gun Violence in Our Local Communities

Judy Stone and Dawn Baerlocher

This community forum will delve into an issue that affects everyone in our community---*Guns and Gun Violence*. A special panel will include speakers from the Whitman County Sheriff's Department, the Pullman Police Department and WSU police, Idaho police, and a Student Resource Officer from the Pullman Schools. Intended to be educational in nature, we will focus on issues surrounding guns in our communities: current and proposed laws that govern the permitting, ownership and carrying of guns; the role guns play in crimes locally; the reality of how often guns are involved with murders, suicides, accidental injuries, mental illness and domestic violence. The program will wrap up with current and proposed safety issues and suggestions for community involvement towards solutions. The Second Amendment will not be a topic. The public is encouraged to attend.

CALLING ALL LEAGUE MEMBERS TO COME TO DINNER!!!

Karen Kiessling

The League Annual Meeting is taking place on Monday, May 11, 6 - 9 pm at 510 SE Crestview Street. Swilly's will be catering the dinner and we will have a sign up sheet at the April League program on Guns and Gun Violence. Members can pay the \$15.00 for dinner at the door in May or in advance at the April meeting. We need the number attending to be sure there is plenty of food to fuel our discussion as we elect officers and adopt program items.

We love this chance to visit over dinner together and this year to celebrate a year of really outstanding programs and an extra effort to celebrate Pullman League's 65 years of service to our town. We have begun a new and successful program in the Community Update, established an energetic Observer Corps and completed the first interviews of our Whitman County Poverty Study. We have hosted a free movie for the town and provided a monthlong display on League history at Neill Library. Under the welcoming charge of our board chair, Paul Spencer, the Pullman League has grown in numbers and in service.

Dinner and discussion is a great time to invite a friend to see what League does and how it works.

You can find the Annual Meeting Agenda, Treasurer's Report, Proposed Budget, and Nominating Committee Report at the end of this VOTER.

PUT MONDAY, MAY 11, 6 PM ON YOUR CALENDAR RIGHT NOW!! SEE YOU THERE.

Report on Poverty Study Update of Feb. 2

Paul Spencer

A very decorative Anniversary cake and refreshments were available for the 34 attendees for the kickoff of the 65th anniversary of the League of Women Voters of Pullman.

Paul Spencer welcomed the audience to the celebration with a brief explanation of the actions of the League during the 65 years which resulted in changes for our community. These were: advocacy for the City to form a Planning Commission, publish a newsletter for this Commission, develop a long range comprehensive City Plan, to form bicycle and walking trails and a city beautification program. We also advocated a switch to regular City staff salaries for Neill Public Library staff, to fund Parks and Recreation as a separate budget category, to develop a public bus transportation system, to start curbside recycling and to encourage sensible City-County cooperation for land development and other matters of common concern. Suggestions for pre-development meetings between developers and concerned citizens and requiring at least 2 access roads for every development and walking exits for school children from cul-de-sac areas have not yet resulted in a positive response from the City.



The major part of the meeting was a status review of the first 7 months of the latest League study, the Poverty Study for Whitman County which has been identified as the poorest in the State. The Chair for the study is Mary Collins who explained the purpose and general outline and methods being used. The volunteers will collect information from agencies and organizations which help and provide services for the poverty families and individuals. After collecting as much information as possible by research using documents and the internet, study volunteers will conduct interviews with these organizations. The research phase is nearly completed, and the initial interviews are being made.

The League expects that the study will be used to promote public discussion, provide information to County and City policy makers, and to provide information for grant writing.



BJ Carlson, Lucy Linden, Jane Von Frank, Lenna Harding, Mary Collins, Judy Stone, Judy Meuth, Libby Walker

Eight Poverty Study members talked about the information already obtained using an excellent Power Point presentation. This was followed by a lively discussion, questions and suggestions from the audience. Many of these will be useful in the Study.

The Power Point slides are available on the LWV of Pullman website:

<http://www.lwvpullman.org/pdf/feb2015PovStdy.pdf>

Report on Showing of *Iron Jawed Angels* Libby Walker

To celebrate the 65th Anniversary of the creation of the Pullman League of Women Voters, the film *Iron Jawed Angels* was shown at Neill Public Library on February 28th. Neill Library co-sponsored this event which was attended by about two dozen people. Most in attendance were unaware of the incredible commitment made by Alice Paul and Lucy Burns in the struggle to pass the 19th Amendment to the Constitution enfranchising women. Some attendees were inspired to conduct further

research about these early leaders in the fight for women's rights and also to view the display case in the Library which included a documented history of the Pullman League created by Diane Smerdon and Diane Gillespie. We thank Neill Library for its generous support including promotion of the event, arranging for the special license required to show the film, and providing a staff member to be on site during the evening to assist us. We also enjoyed the great popcorn!

Report on March Meeting on Voting Rights

Paul Spencer

The program of this meeting was a discussion of current U.S. voting rights issues, of the efforts to improve voting rights and about the organizations trying to influence voting rights policy and laws. LWV member Nick Lovrich recommended that Linda Pall was very well qualified to be a speaker for this subject, and she accepted our invitation. She is an attorney and retired WSU professor and former coordinator of Business Law for the College of Business there and voting rights is an area of her deepest concern as well as activism.

Linda gave an interesting and thorough account of the history and events leading up to the Voting Rights Act of 1965 including the Selma - Montgomery march that year. This act was important because it was a general solution which allowed a US Attorney to act to remedy voting rights impediments without an individual suit for each violation.

She explained that recently there have been many changes in some states' voting rules which limit voting rights. These include limiting early voting to 1 or 2 days, requiring a photo ID for registration, purging the voter rolls, eliminating same day registration, and manipulating voting district borders for political purposes. This was followed by a discussion of the effects of the voting rights laws on the number of minority legislators elected and what we as a group might do to improve voting rights

CONVENTION -- CONVENTION -- CONVENTION

Calling all Leaguers to State Convention in Yakima, WA, on June 12-14.

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 11, and as many other members as wish to go as observers (cannot vote but can attend all sessions, meals and special events). The Pullman Board wants to urge all members to consider going. Voting delegates are paid up to \$350 per person to cover costs of the convention. If you would like to be a voting delegate, please let Paul Spencer know (paul-spencer@pullman.com). We would love to have some of our new members attend.

Brown Bag Reports

Deb Olson

February

The February Brown Bag was more informal than usual. Since February was our 65th Anniversary we talked about Pullman League history. We had nice mix of newer members and long term members. Lenna Harding and Lucy Linden told stories and interesting facts about our League. I did some digging through the boxes from Dorothy Swanson (second round) and found some things of interest.

One thing of particular interest was a list of responsibilities of the president; we have since created separate board positions for some of these responsibilities. If you have been a member of League long term or even for a shorter period of time and have items pertaining to League, SAVE THEM, and contact Alice Schroeder, Paul Spencer or me. We also need to consolidate all Pullman League history resources in one spot in addition to the materials in the WSU Archives (which require some work cataloguing and organizing according to Diane Gillespie).

We have copies of many of the pre-email National, State and Local League studies, as well as *The State We're In*. We will be making a list of these studies and putting it on the website for anyone interested.

March

The March Brown Bag featured Pullman Police Chief Gary Jenkins. We asked Chief Jenkins to give us an update on body cameras, and the freedom of information request earlier this year. There are also two bills winding their way through the WA legislature on body cameras, length of storage, privacy issues, and other related issues. Pullman has used body cameras worn either on the collar or a head piece for over a year and have generated over 28,000 hours of data. Use of the cameras is mandatory, but the officers still have to turn them on manually. In all cases of use of force cameras are required to be turned on for the officer involved and all other officers on the scene. This has resulted in a reduction in complaints perhaps by improving officer conduct and by discouraging baseless complaints.

The video is tamper-proof but user-friendly. Officers are allowed to review video to write reports. Information is easier to share throughout the justice system. Videos are used for officer debriefing and training purposes also. The blanket request for all data to date was handled well by our department. The request was treated with courtesy. A compromise was reached where video from five cases that have been adjudicated was released as public record. Video cannot be accessed by the general public for no reason. The police website has a form for record requests.

In other police business the police department needs to add additional officers, the first increase since 2001. The department has requested adding one dedicated records officer, and one street officer. Pullman currently has a ratio of 0.92 officers for 1000 population. Adding an officer takes a year from hiring through training to working on the streets. Pullman has an additional police force in the WSU police. There are clear boundaries to the jurisdictions. Greek Row is the responsibility of Pullman police and there is a dedicated Campus Hill officer, for prevention and to establish relations with residents. There are monthly meetings between the two and with special interest groups especially before events (e.g. marches and demonstrations).

One area which will require an additional officer is the public school. A single officer, the DARE officer is currently responsible for all the schools but most time is spent in the elementary schools. Chief Jenkins foresees a need to add an officer especially for the Middle School.

There has been an increase in calls. There has been a 6% increase in alcohol cases and 30% increase in assaults. On the other hand there has been a decrease in calls related to marijuana. On the whole Pullman is very lucky with the quality of its police force.

Upcoming Brown Bags

Deb Olson

Thursday April 16, 2015 – Kurt Dahmen, Pullman Parks and Rec. What are the plans for the upcoming year? What's happening with Reaney Pool? How are they coping with funding? Bring other questions.

Thursday May 21, 2015 – tentative: Richard Wesson Civic Trust. Biking in the Palouse and the proposed bike trail.

Hiatus June –August.

September 17, 2015 – our annual meeting with the County Commissioners.

Observer Corps Update

Anne Lewis

We are now up to 12 Observers and 8 covered entities. This is a 1200% increase from last year. I strongly encourage all to attend the Annual Planning Meeting on May 11. All team members who have turned in at least one report will be recognized and feted. A current Observer sheet/Additional sign-up sheet will available. Although I sincerely hope the majority, if not all, of the Observers continue their roles—you will have the opportunity to express your preferences.

Thus, please be considering whether you are willing to continue as an Observer next year (remember your Observer duties will only get easier and more rewarding). If you would like to continue in your current position, you will! If you would like to see if the grass is greener with a different entity, you will be given that opportunity! If you aren't yet a participant, please know that there are more boards and commissions that await your presence. Observer Corps is an activity that is high on benefit (both personal and League) and relatively easy on one's schedule.

Observers' First Impressions

For this Voter, I decided to include a sampling of Observers' overall impressions of a meeting or group:

Judy Stone re: Pullman Hospital Board – “It appears that Department Heads work together well on major projects and it is important to them that this continues so knowledge is shared...sort of like informational cross-training.”

Dawn Baerlocher re: Pullman School Board – “I was the only audience member this evening. It is

unfortunate that more people don't attend regularly because these meetings are so interesting."

Jackie Miyasaka re: Pullman City Council – "Overall, I thought the Council members worked well together and were willing to listen to each other and to concerns brought by Pullman citizens. They also seem to proceed very carefully and deliberately, looking at all sides of an issue before making decisions."

Report on March Social Event – Pi(e) Day

Anne Lewis

On March 14th, 8 Pi(e) enthusiasts gathered at Anne Lewis' home to celebrate Pi Day with pie. There was a beautiful and delicious assortment of savory and dessert pies as well as a refreshing Chinese noodle salad. It was a relaxed opportunity to enjoy each other's company while eating just a touch more than is strictly necessary for subsistence.

Thank you to those who came (Anne, Barbara, Dawn, Deb, Dick, Fran, June, and Karen) and to those who expressed interest in the idea, but were unable to attend.

Next Game Day: Thursday, April 2 . 10-11:30 a.m.

Anne Lewis

Come join us for the next game day on April 2 at 10am at Susan and Paul's house. So that I don't need to come up with a new name for these events, I vow that, at a minimum, a game will make its appearance at some point.

Susan and Paul: 1745 SW Baldwin Dr., 332-6699

Annual Business Meeting Agenda

1. Call to order and declaration of quorum (1/4 of 53 members = 13) - Paul Spencer
2. 2014 Annual meeting Minutes Report- Dawn Baerlocher
3. Appointment of readers for the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes
4. Treasurer's Report- Joan Folwell
5. Finance Drive Report- Shelley Jones and Joan Folwell
6. Budget Report- Joan Folwell
7. Membership Report
8. Nominating Committee Report- Deborah Olson
 1. Executive Committee Proposal Extension
9. Election of Officers
10. Election of Delegates
 1. State Convention Yakima, June 12-14 (League funding is available)
 2. Direction to Delegates
11. Program Item: Whitman County Poverty Study- Mary Collins
 1. Status report
12. Other Business
 1. Discussion of noon brown bag meetings- Deb Olsen
 2. Community Update- Diane Smerdon
 3. Summer Activities
 1. Summer Planning- Monday, Tentatively July 13
 2. Parades - Deb Olsen
 4. Other volunteer opportunities
 1. Observer Corp- Anne Lewis
 2. Voter Service Committee- Deb Olsen
13. Additional items for the good of the order
14. Adjournment

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT **April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015**

INCOME	
Dues (from 32 individuals, 11 households)	\$2850.00
Total Donations*	\$2975.00
Annual Meeting	\$435.00
In-Kind Donations	\$160.00 (donated gas mileage; \$.50/mile)
TOTAL	\$6420.00

EXPENSES	
Operating Costs:	
P. O. Box Rental	\$84.00
Venue Costs	\$100.00
Administrative Costs:	
President/Board	\$0.00
Finance Drive	\$144.48
Affiliations	\$225.00 (Cham. Of Com., Neill Library)
WA News Service	\$0.00
Public Relations	\$1050.00 (all for Community Updates)
Annual Meeting	\$405.00
Delegates, Travel:	
LWVUS Convention (2 delegates, even years)	\$1172.19 (+\$1626 pd before 4/14 = \$2798.19)
Action Workshops	\$125.00
Per Member Payments (PMPs)	
State (based on 27 ind., 10 hshld)	\$788.50
National (based on 27 ind., 10 hshld)	\$1286.50 (\$643.25 paid from Ed Fund)
The Voter:	
Supplies	\$41.58
Postage	\$53.90
Educational Activities:	
Voter Service	\$0.00
Other Programs	\$27.99 (anniversary cake)
They Represent You brochures	\$431.20
In-Kind Donation Expenses	\$160.00 (donated gas mileage)
TOTAL	\$6095.34

BALANCES AS OF 3/31/2015:

Working Assets	\$5128.41
Reserve Assets	\$3000.00
Educational Fund	<u>\$2309.97</u>
TOTAL	\$10,438.38

*Donations include \$500 for the Poverty Study (Avista) and \$500 for the TRY (American West Bank)

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN

Proposed Budget July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

EXPENSES

	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>Actual Costs 7/2014-6/2015</u>
• <u>Operating Costs</u>	<u>\$875.00</u>	<u>\$148.00</u>
P.O. Box Rental	100.00*	84.00
Thank You Gifts	150.00	0.00
Venue Expenses	500.00	100.00
Miscellaneous	125.00	0.00 (domain fee pd in 1/14 til 1/16)
• <u>Administrative</u>	<u>\$1830.00</u>	<u>\$1454.48</u>
President/Board	50.00	0.00
Administrative Committees		
Finance Drive	120.00	144.48
Membership	110.00	0.00
Public Relations	930.00*(Com.Up., 360)	630.00 (Community Update)
Affiliations	225.00	225.00 (Pullman C of C, Neill Library.)
WA News Service	50.00	50.00
Annual Dinner	400.00*	405.00
Miscellaneous	60.00	0.00
• <u>Delegates and Travel</u>	<u>\$1550.00</u>	<u>\$1175.00</u>
Nat'l. Convention (2 del)	0.00	0.00 (2798.19 for 2014 US con)
State Council (2 dels)	0.00	0.00
State Convention (3 dels)	1050.00	1050.00 (assume 3 delegates go 6/15)
Action Workshop	300.00	125.00
Other Events/Travel (.50/mi)	200.00	0.00 (160.00 in kind gas mileages)
• <u>Per Member Payments (PMPs)</u>	<u>\$2288.00</u>	<u>\$2075.00</u>
National PMP (for 34 ind, 12 hshld)	1612.00*	1286.50 (1/2 paid by Ed Fund)
State PMP (for 34 ind, 12 hshld)	988.00*	788.50
National PMP: \$31.00 for individuals; \$46.50 for households; \$15.50 for students		
State PMP: \$19.00 for individuals; \$28.50 householders; \$9.50 for students		
Official member count as of January 31, 2014: 27 individual, 10 household, 0 student, 3 honorary		
• <u>The Voter</u>	<u>\$120.00</u>	<u>\$59.14</u>
Printing, supplies	75.00	36.12
Postage	45.00	23.02
• <u>Educational Activities</u>	<u>\$600.00</u>	<u>\$459.19</u>
Publications	100.00	0.00
They Represent You (TRY)	0.00	431.20 (every 2 years)
Program	200.00	27.99
Voter Service	300.00	0.00
• <u>Position/Action Activities</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
• <u>In-Kind Donation Expenses</u>	<u>\$200.00</u>	<u>\$160.00</u> (in kind gas mileage)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7663.00	\$5530.81

Nat'l. Con. (even years)-\$1700/del; State Council (even years)-\$250/del; State Con. (odd years)-\$350/del

INCOME

	<u>2015-2016</u>	<u>Actual Income 7/1/14 to 6/30/15</u>
A. Dues	\$3060.00	\$2855.00
34 individual (\$60)	2040.00	1920.00 (32 individual)
12 household (\$85)	1020.00	935.00 (11 household)
0 student (\$25)	0.00	0.00 (0 student)
B. Contributions	\$3300.00	\$2425.00
Regular Fund	2500.00	1820.00 (\$500 - TRY - Amer. West)
Ed Fund	800.00	605.00
C. Sales of Publications	\$0.00	\$0.00
D. Annual Dinner	\$400.00	\$405.00
E. In-Kind Donations	\$200.00	\$160.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$6960.00	\$5685.50

Nominating Committee Report

Deb Olson

Our experiment of substituting the traditional Presidents/Co- Presidents/Vice President positions with an Executive Committee of Three worked very well this year and will continue for the next year.

A brand new position of Brown Bag Coordinator is being added formally to the list of officers this year. This is a fun job since you can do topics you are interested in, hence the environmental topics this year. You just have to contact the person or organization involved. You are usually responsible for writing up a brief report for the Voter or delegating it to someone who will be present.

Board Chairman: Paul Spencer

Membership: Janet Kendall

League Voice: Karen Kiessling

Scheduling: Barbara Hammond

Information Coordinator: Anne Lewis

Observer Corps: Anne Lewis

Secretary: Alice Schroeder

Community Update Editor: Diane Smerdon

Backup Secretary: Jackie Miyasaki

TRY Editor: Lucy Linden

Treasurer: Joan Folwell

Webmaster: Paul Spencer

Voter Service Chair: Deb Olson

Brown Bag Coordinator: Deb Olson

Voter Editor: Susan Daniels

Historian: Alice Schroeder

Finance Committee: Shelley Jones, Lenna
Harding

Nominating Chair: Anne Lewis

Poverty Study Chair: Mary Collins

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

Pictures



February Meeting
League birthday and
Poverty Study Update



Library Display by Diane Smerdon and Diane Gillespie