



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

<https://www.facebook.com/LWVPullman/>

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.

President: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428; **Vice-President:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929.

Complete officer list and contact information on page 8.



"Be present in all things and thankful for all things. "
- Maya Angelou

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This Editor and the League of Women Voters of Pullman is thankful for YOU!

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

Meetings & Events in Brief

Board Meetings

Date: Generally Fourth Tuesdays, 10:00 a.m.; November 28, December TBD

Location: Daily Grind, back room

Chair: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428

Brown Bag Meetings

When: 3rd Thursdays of the month; noon

Location: Congregational Church, 525 NE Campus Avenue, Pullman

Upcoming Topics:

November 16- Fake News

December 14- District Court Judge Doug Robinson on Alternative Sentencing

Contact: Deb Olson, 509-595-0333

Action Workshops

November 18, Olympia; Dec. 2 Tacoma, January 6, Seattle. For more information, please go to www.lwwa.org

December Meeting

Date: Monday, December 4

Program: Membership Recognition and Cookie Dessert & Exchange

Please Notice This



Location: Pullman Congregational Church; Time: 7:00 p.m.

Contact: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428; Mary Collins, 509-592-6929

National Planning Meeting

Date: Monday, January 8, *2018*

Time: 10 am- noon!

Location: The Old European Restaurant, 455 S. Grand, Pullman

Contact: Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699

Book Club

Date & Time: Monday, January 15, 2018; 1 pm

Program: *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah

Location: Home of Alice Schroeder, 145 S.W. Arbor St., Pullman

Contact: Alice Schroeder, 509-334-2470

Democracy Day in Olympia

Date: January 26, 2018

Contact: ksakahara@lwwwa.org

February Program (Friends of Hospice)

Date & Time: February 5, 2018; 6:30-9PM

Location: Umpqua Bank

Contact/Chair: Libby Walker, 509-432-4756

March Program (Healthcare)

Date: March 5, 2018

Time: 6:30-9:00 P.M; Location: Umpqua Bank

Contact: Judy Stone, 509-878-1519

Meetings & Events- The Fuller Picture

Brown Bag Meetings

November 16- Fake News

- Libby Walker

The Pullman League of Women Voters' November 16th Brown Bag will feature Peter Haug, a writer and editor, whose presentation is entitled, "Fake News: How to Know What to Know." His talk will enable attendees to recognize, understand, and respond positively to "fake news," misinformation, disinformation, and downright lies. We will also learn to recognize false information and to make informed decisions about issues we face in an increasingly complex global society. The presentation will take place from noon to 1:00 pm at the Community Congregational, United Church of Christ in Pullman. Ample parking is available, and all are invited to attend.

December 14- Alternative Sentencing

The December Brown Bag is set! Judge Doug Robinson, District Court Judge will speak about Alternative Sentencing on Dec 14th from 12 to 1 at the Congregational Church. Bring questions!!!



Membership Recognition &

- Mary Collins

The December meeting will be Monday the 4th at the **Pullman Congregational Church** (the same place we hold the brown bags) beginning at 7pm. We will be honoring our 50 years+ members and celebrating the holiday season. **Please bring cookies to enjoy and share** (i.e., extras to exchange with others and take home).

Action Workshops

- Information from State league website- www.lvwwa.org

Gear Up for the 2018 Legislative Session!

This year the League of Women Voters of Washington is presenting three Action Workshops in Olympia, Seattle and Tacoma. These workshops cover LWVWA advocacy priorities for the upcoming legislative session and will give you an opportunity to:

- Help us flex our political muscle in Olympia.
- Get the inside scoop on what to expect for the upcoming legislative session.
- Learn about critical issues facing our state, such as climate change, the challenge of raising revenue, education, and campaign finance.
- Discuss the issues of greatest interest to you with legislators and our lobby team.
- Gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to be a more effective, powerful advocate for the issues you care about.
- Network with other advocates involved in the League.
- Meet LWVWA's dynamic lobbyist **team: Nancy Sapiro and Pam Crone.**

All workshops are 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Registration fee of \$25 includes lunch, coffee and all workshop materials. Use the links below to register for the workshop you'd like to attend. All workshops will have the same core information with keynotes on different topics at each workshop.

[November 18, Olympia](#) Keynote: Session Expectations, Hirst Water Decision & Capitol Tour

[December 2, Tacoma](#) Keynote: Homelessness and Housing Issues

[January 6, Seattle](#) Keynote: Revenue Issues

January Planning Meeting

- Paul Spencer

Each year LWV Pullman takes a winter meeting to plan ahead. **We will meet at Pullman's Old European Restaurant on Monday, January 8, 2018 from 10 am-noon.**

In odd numbered years we plan for State Convention and local activities. In even years, such as this one, we plan for the upcoming National League Convention. This year we will look at the most recent positions the LWVUS has taken as a result of studies in the last four years and consider what studies, updates, and actions we want discussed at the June Convention. The League of Women Voters' 53rd National Convention will be held **June 28-July 2, 2018 in Chicago**. Attending National Convention is an amazing opportunity and experience! Ask about being a delegate.

Book Club

- Jackie Miyasaka

Pullman League of Women Voters' next book club meeting will be January 15, 1 pm, at the home of Alice Schroeder, 145 S. Arbor St., Pullman. The book will be *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah. A memoir of Noah's childhood during apartheid in South Africa and the freedom that followed, the book offers insight into today's political and social systems. We hope you can join us to talk about this book together. Please feel free to come, even if you have not finished reading the book.

Democracy Day in Olympia is January 26, 2018

- Information from State league website (10/20/17 TWIL)- www.lvwva.org

Please join the League of Women Voters of Washington and Fix Democracy First for Democracy Day in Olympia on January 26. While LWV works on many issues, elections, voting rights and campaign finance are at the core of the work that we do. Without a functioning democracy, advocacy on every other issue becomes virtually impossible.

On that day we will be meeting with legislators to advocate for bills that expand opportunities to vote, promote more representative election systems, empower disenfranchised communities, reduce the influence of special interest money and strengthen government ethics. We will also get/provide training on the critical Democracy issues in Washington and how to effectively advocate with your legislator. While committee meeting schedule is yet to be determined, we are optimistic that some of the bills we are working on will be heard and discussed in committee that day. We will provide help for those who want to testify and assist in setting up meetings with your legislators. If you have questions, please contact ksakahara@lvvwa.org.



March Program

- Judy Stone

"Now is the Time: Healthcare for Everybody". This documentary by Laurie Simons and Terry Sterrenberg discusses why it is time for the U.S. to have single-payer health insurance. Such a system has been introduced to Congress every year since 1973 and is supported by the National League of Women Voters. Discussion will follow.

Observer Corps

- Judy Stone

Observers are the eyes  and ears  of the League Board. If you are intrigued by the idea of observing the goings-on of a local governmental entity, please consider one of the three vacancies listed or suggest another agency that interests you. Contact: Judy Stone at jlmstone@frontier.com

Port of Whitman County Board of Commissioners – meets the first and third Thursdays of each month at 10 am in the Port Administration Office, Colfax. The Port has broad economic development authority to bring business and jobs to Whitman County.

Pullman Parks and Recreation Commission – meets the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Pullman City Hall. This commission advises the City Council in the management and development of parks facilities and recreation programs.

Pullman/Moscow Regional Airport Board – meets the last Wednesday of every month at 3 pm at the Airport Fire Station. This Board establishes the policies by which the airport operates - not the day-to-day operation of the airport.

Thank you for your consideration! Observer Corps Guidelines can be found at:
<http://lwvpullman.org/pdf/ObsCorpsGdline2016.pdf>

Observer Report- Whitman County Planning Commission, November 1, 2017- Shelley Chambers

Length of Meeting: 1 hr 30 min Members Present: Matt Sutherland, Keith Paulson, Chad Whetzel, Bob Hill, Ken Duft, Dave Gibney, Guy Williams, Alan Thomson, Katrin Hunt, Eleanor Huber (note taker)
Others Present (i.e., media, public): Pete Dickinson (city planner), John Anderson and Chris Clark.

Content:

New Commissioner Matt Sutherland was introduced to the remaining members.

The two major items for consideration were the zoning changes required by the new airport expansion and the need to fill the vacancies on the Commission.

The County Planning Commission discussed how to implement land use compatibility with the airport's needs. The commissioners agreed that Pete Dickinson and Alan Thomson need to work together to hammer out the details and then bring back to the commission a plan to codify the land use recommendations of the FAA/WSDOT and provide a legally binding description or map of the proposed zones.

Alan Thomson announced that Ken Duft will retire from the commission after the first of the year. This will put the commission down 3 members again. The Commissioners directed Alan Thomson to develop a proposal to change the county code and commission bylaws to allow 2 to 4 commissioners to come from each county district. Moving away from the requirement to appoint 3 from each district will allow more flexibility in the recruitment of commissioners.

New Commissioner Matt Sutherland mentioned that the Commission should consider recruiting a female member to create some balance on the body.

Maps prepared by the county engineers depicting the proposed Airport Overlay Zone were placed in the front of public seating. The Commissioners are cordial and seem to work well together and work well with the members of the Pullman Planning Commission.

News & Updates!

New Member Spotlight: Peggy Scuderi

I was born and raised in Chicago, IL. After high school I attended a small liberal arts school, The College of Idaho, where I was introduced to the Pacific Northwest and received a degree in elementary education.

I married Phil Scuderi, my high school sweetheart, had 4 children and moved back and forth between Pullman and Chicago. In 1977 we moved to Pullman again and spent the next 32 years living here and raising our family in this wonderful environment.

When our children were in school full time I returned to school at the University of Idaho to obtain a MA in Special Education. I had amazing experiences from preschool level through university teaching for 22 years. I retired from the Moscow School District as the Director of Special Services.

I am now retired, enjoying the Palouse and my 7 grandchildren.

I joined the LWV because it is a nonpartisan group that focuses on community, state and federal issues that I feel I need to be aware of and understand these issues and concerns. The LWV informs and schedules speakers to address these issues. I have so much to learn and am willing to volunteer to wade in and get my feet wet.

SOCIAL MEDIA



Our chair for our newly established position recently moved from Pullman for a work opportunity. Thus, we are **seeking a SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR.**

If your social media skills go beyond post it notes and you recognize more than one of the symbols depicted on the second image, please consider this position! Once familiar with the published league of women voters Social Media guidance, the sky is the limit! Staying grounded and working slowly to build our presence is acceptable as well. If you have interest in this position, please contact Shelley Jones at 509-432-3428.

Oh...the Memories (aka “Reports”)

Food Insecurity

- Mary Collins

Despite the first significant snow of the year, we had a good turnout for our November evening meeting which was a panel speaking about different efforts to feed children outside of school days during 2017. There are four pilot efforts in the Pullman area.

Linhda Sagen spoke about the Jefferson Elementary School PTA weekend snack program. This provides food that children who qualify for free and reduced price meals can take home for the weekend. They began in April and served some 50 students. This fall they have 100. Franklin Elementary has started a similar program and Lincoln Middle School is in the planning phase of a program. Jane Sielken spoke of the work St. James Episcopal is doing to provide weekend food for 29 children in need who attend the day care in their church. Colleen Hindman of the YMCA told us about their program to feed low income students who participate in their summer camp. After trying to do this informally for a couple of summers, in 2017 they launched a formal program that served breakfast and lunch to 52 students every day of summer vacation. Mary Collins shared the experiences of the Albion Summer Lunch Program which fed an average of 32 kids four days each week this last summer.

All of the speakers addressed the growing need for such efforts and that for the time being anyway these efforts will continue to depend on local, private financial support. An outgrowth of the evening’s conversation is a plan to explore collaborative fund raising.

Kiwanis Luncheon

- Mary Collins

Judy Stone and Mary Collins were the November 3rd Kiwanis Luncheon speakers. They told the group about the Poverty Study and the work of the Observer Corps. They were well fed and the information was well received.

Voter Education/Forums

City Bonds- Libby Walker

On October 16, 2017, Adam Lincoln and Kurt Dahmen were available at Encounter Ministries to answer questions about the bonds on the ballot and to lead a tour of the facility. About 30 people attended and spent close to an hour learning about the two buildings that would be purchased if the bond passes.

Rosalia- Mary Collins

In response to a request from some of the candidates running for town offices in Rosalia, the LWV of Pullman conducted a candidate forum in Rosalia on Saturday October 7. The turnout, while small in absolute numbers, was a good proportion of the voting citizens in Rosalia. Deb Olson, Mary Collins, Judy Stone, and Diane Smerdon put on the forum and enjoyed meeting some new people and doing a bit of sight-seeing in and around the community.

Pullman Candidate Forum

-Deb Olson

This year all races for the three city council positions and the school board positions were contested. We changed things up by having all six of the city council candidates sit at the same table and all four school board candidates sit together. This eliminated a lot of repeat questions and allowed us to hold one candidate forum instead of two. The library venue was excellent and we wish to offer a very special thanks to Joanna Bailey for having everything set up beforehand and staying to the end. I would also like to thank every league member who helped make this a great forum. We had a good attendance from both League and the public.

Brown Bags

-October 26, Deb Olson

Although Art Swannack had a prior commitment, Michael Largent and Dean Kinzer were in attendance for our annual Brown Bag with the County Commissioners. Good news as, for the first time many, many years, the county turned in an error free budget to the state.

There is some personnel reshuffling with retirements. Parks is merging with Emergency Management. The new bridge on Sand Road- one of several major road projects- is nearing completion. The County has 19,000 miles of roads and is ahead of schedule for road maintenance and repair. The county is planning to replace several pieces of equipment, including 3 sheriff vehicles, as they reach the end of their useful life.

Once again, the commissioners mentioned that the county is an agent of the state. New obligations are added to the county, such as the Ballot Box Bill, but no additional funding is received. This bill would require 14 additional ballot boxes (\$9000/per box) and require they be manned by trained personnel. We asked if the League could help. Michael Largent would like every state mandate to be funded-- if no funding, no mandate.

Many county positions are opening, and the Commissioners ask if the League can get the word out as we did for the Planning Commission.

-September 21, Libby Walker

The League welcomed Pullman City Supervisor Adam Lincoln and Recreation Manager Kurt Dahmen to the September Brown Bag at the Congregational United Church of Christ in Pullman. Presentations were given for the two bonds that voters saw on the November ballot.

Mr. Dahmen explained that the \$2.4 million replacement bond will include a new bathroom and pool liner at Sunnyside Park and an ADA path. City Play Fields will be upgraded with 6 new dugout shelters plus path improvements, fence replacement. A new stage band shell will be built at Reaney Park. Several paths will be developed, including from Center Street to Sunnyside Park. An audience member questioned why these expenses were not covered in the city's general budget. Mr. Dahmen answered that the City is struggling to keep general expenses within the \$21 million budget and that the Eyman Initiative limited what can be raised and spent.

Mr. Lincoln described the components of the \$10.5 million bond which will include purchase and remodeling of Encounter Ministries, building a community center at Lawson Garden, and purchase of property for a third fire station. Audience questions included whether Encounter Ministries is ADA compliant, whether any thought had been given to moving the police and keeping City Hall downtown, and why Pullman needs another basketball court. In addition, the audience wanted to know why three separate topics are included in this bond.

Audience members were encouraged to take advantage of tours available at Encounter Ministries. About 30 citizens attended the meeting including some of the League's newest members.

Civics Class at Pullman High School

-Deb Olson

Anne Lewis, Bobbie Ryder, and myself took over the high school civics class on Oct 2. This semester the classes were back to back and only 55 minutes, so we finished before noon. This was our first time with the shorter class time and it was much easier. Due to the shorter time we only did the Voting History (Candy Game) and the literacy test. Although we didn't register anyone to vote, we provided basic information and registration forms to those interested. All had a good time. We will be going to the high school again in the spring semester. If you are interested in participating, please contact Deb Olson.

Back to League Meeting

- Mary Collins



The annual fall “Back To League” meeting was held on Monday September 11, 2017. Karen Kiessling hosted the event at her home. Twenty-three individuals attended, including several who recently joined the League and some who joined after the evening. The highlight was a presentation by State President Ann Murphy who made the trip down from Spokane to join us for the pot-luck dinner and then presented a program on what it means to be “non-partisan”. We also had updates on some of the upcoming work of the League including voter forums, voter registration, civics education, and the observer corps. It looks like we will be busy in the coming year and we hope our members—new, venerable, or somewhere in between- find their involvement rewarding.

Complete List of Board Officers:

President: Shelley Jones, 509-432-3428; **Vice-President:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **Secretary:** Alice Schroeder, 509-334-2470; **Backup Secretary:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; **Treasurers:** Susan Daniels & Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Voter Service:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Observer Corps Chair:** Judy Stone, 509-878-1519; **Brown Bag Coordinator:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Voter Editor:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Community Outreach:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; 509-432-3368; **Community Update Editor:** Diane Smerdon, 509-334-5413; **Membership:** Janet Kendall, 509-432-3368; **Finance Coordinator:** Diane Smerdon, 509-334-5413; **Finance Drive Thank-Yous:** Lenna Harding, 509-332-7749; **Nominating Chair:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075

From the Editor:

Coming Sometime- that elusive Voter Survey

As always, I appreciate your ideas, helpful criticism, and feedback regarding this Voter and future Voters. I can be reached at anneglewis2@yahoo.com or 509-334-1075.

Thank you for reading and for your valuable participation in the League of Women Voters of Pullman

