



VOTER

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF PULLMAN, WASHINGTON

www.lwvpullman.org

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

Vision Statement: We envision a democracy where every person has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate.

President: Bobbie Ryder, 509-432-9619; **Vice-President:** Helen Catanese, hncatanese@gmail.com, **Voter Editor:** Anne Lewis; Complete officer list and contact information on page 9.

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"An arrow can only be shot by pulling it backward.
So when life is dragging you back with difficulties,
it means that it's going to launch you into something great."

- Author Unknown

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

Meetings & Events

Zoom meeting,
audio only



Zoom meeting
with video



Board Meetings

Date: **Tuesday, August 25**

Time: 10:00 am- noon

Location: TBD

Contact: Bobbie Ryder

Note: No board meetings are scheduled for June and July.

LWVWA 2020 Virtual Centennial Council

Date: May 29 – June 7

Times: A Variety

Where: Cyberspace

Information and Registration: <https://www.lwvwa.org/centennial-council>

Summer Planning Meeting

Date: **Tuesday, June 23**

Time: 10:00 am- noon

Location: Cyberspace! The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Contact: Mary Collins (Suggestions, meeting); Helen Catanese (Facilitation/Zoom Questions)



Upcoming Events

LWVWA 2020 Virtual Centennial Council- Susan Daniels

This year the LWVWA 2020 Centennial Council will be held online via Zoom so it will be convenient and easy for everyone interested to attend. Council runs from May 29-June 7 with virtual sessions, each about an hour long, spread out over a week and you can attend as few or many as you wish. Keep an eye out for “Membership: From Curious to Committed” which will include our very own Judy Stone and Bobbie Ryder on the panel!

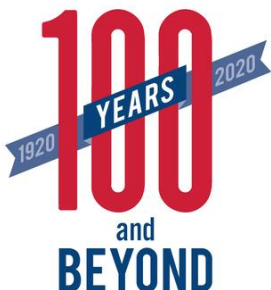
Council is an inspiring and invigorating gathering of League members and a chance to meet members across the state who are interested in the same topics you are. **What a way to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote!**

The Pullman League will reimburse the registration fee for those members who attend. Only the official representatives of LWV of Pullman can vote, but all are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this historic and unprecedented virtual Council.

For more information (including the schedule of sessions) and to register click here:

<https://www.lwvwa.org/centennial-council>

National Convention- Helen Catanese



The 54th League of Women Voters National Convention is going Online!

Previously, the 54th National Convention was slated for Washington DC, June 25 – June 28, 2020. However, due to the pandemic, **the convention will be held virtually June 25-27**. There will also be various seminars and online events throughout May and June. The meetings will be held over Zoom, the same platform we have been using for meetings over the past few months. This is an excellent opportunity to allow more people to attend our centennial national convention, as the expense and inconvenience of travel has been eliminated.

We invite our Pullman League members to join fellow passionate and engaged leaders for this biennial national gathering to celebrate the centennial of the ratification of the 19th amendment which guarantees all American women the right to vote. Achieving this milestone required a lengthy and difficult struggle, with victory only after decades of agitation and protest. May we not forget our continued struggles for equal rights for all citizens granted by the Equal Rights Amendment that has yet to be ratified by Congress.

Find information on how to register <https://www.lwv.org/2020convention>. However, currently registration is only open for voting delegates. Keep an eye out for general registration, and we hope to see you there!

Summer Planning Meeting- Mary Collins

The 2020 Annual Planning meeting will be conducted via Zoom **between 10am and noon on Tuesday, June 23rd**. Mary Collins will coordinate, Helen Catanese will facilitate the technology.

The purpose of the June Planning meeting is to choose topics to be the subject of our noon Brown Bag and monthly evening public programs. The intent of these programs is to help inform our members and the electorate about topics of concern related to local, regional, and national governance. They can build on, or be the foundation for, studies that help us develop position policies. Sometimes our programs build on a general theme, such as the past year's emphasis on the centennial of woman suffrage, or programs can be topics of interest identified by the members.

Because we must meet remotely this year, **I am hoping to expedite the process by requesting that members submit ideas for topics to me by Friday, June 19.** I will collate and circulate these in advance of our Zoom discussion. Please send your ideas to me at marycollins1104@gmail.com.

Voter Services

The Primary- Deb Olson

The Primary will be held August 4th. Several state offices are contested (have more than one candidate) and will appear on the Primary ballot. This includes the 5th Congressional District where Cathy McMorris Rogers has 4 opponents: Stephen Major (R), Dave Wilson (D), Chris Armitage (D) and Brendan O'Regan (I).

Local races (State Representatives and Senator) and two County Commissioners are either uncontested or only have one opponent. Mary Dye (State Rep Position 1) faces an opponent, Brett Borden. Joe Schmidt is unopposed. For State Senator, Mark Schoesler will face Jenn Goulet. For County Commissioner positions, Art Swannack is unopposed, and Dean Kinzer will face Tom Handy.

The details of candidate forums (form, dates, attendees) have yet to be determined. Note that traditionally, as Washington includes the top two candidates on the ballot, we have not held Forums for races with only two candidates.

Challenges and what we CAN do!- Deb Olson

Recent events have limited one of the League's key functions, **Voter Registration**. We should be out like gangbusters but cannot because of social distancing. However, as individuals, we can still talk to people and encourage voter registration. Tell people they can still register online at www.votewa.gov. They can also use this site to check on their status. People can still register the old-fashioned way- with a paper - form. I have a whole stack of forms if anyone wants any. **Don't forget to change your address if you have moved!** Please feel free to contact me or give my address out to anyone with any questions, olsonbones@aol.com.

Vote411 needs candidate questions. Think of questions you or your friends would like to ask the candidates and send them to me. This is something we can do right now!

A Selection of Memories

Zoom Board Meetings- Bobbie Ryder

In March LWV of Pullman held its first Zoom Board meeting and decided that we kind of liked this format. They continued meeting over Zoom for the spring semester. It was a step into a new century for us, but we aim to be current. We will also hold our Annual Planning Meeting on Tuesday, June 23rd, at 10 am over Zoom. Link will be available on the Pullman League website a week before the meeting.

Ranked Choice Voting 101- Helen Catanese

On May 12th we had our final brown bag of the year with a Zoom presentation by volunteers Lisa Ayrault and Kit Muehlman of FairVoteWA. This is a local grassroots organization working toward fairer and more representative election systems. We learned much about the pitfalls of our current method of vote-tallying (first past the post), and how those can be mitigated. Despite the change in setting, the presentation was very well attended, **with nearly 30 participants**, and the discussions were just as thoughtful and robust as we would expect from a League brown bag. This topic also aligns nicely with the national League's proposed concurrence on election systems, which would advocate for alternatives to plurality voting (of which ranked choice is one). If you want to know more about FairVoteWA, or how you can help support election system reform in our state, you can find that information at <https://fairvotewa.org/>



Annual Meeting 2020- Bobbie Ryder

The LWV of Pullman Annual Meeting was both socially safe and on task with business. Like almost everyone, we met over Zoom Meetings, which was a big step for this organization. We had a bit of a snag with a password, but in the end, about 20 people joined, which is a good turnout even for a face-to-face dinner annual meeting.

The program included a unanimous vote in favor of officers and board members, followed by a "Year in Review" PowerPoint of highlights. This was coordinated with music which made for a lively presentation. The rest of the meeting included verbal reports from the chairs of ten sub-committees and discussion about attending the LWV Convention over Zoom and responsibilities of delegates. Find more information at <https://www.lwv.org/2020convention> and consider attending from the comfort of your home. Members were also encouraged to attend the WA State LWV Council Meeting over Zoom. Go to <https://www.lwvwa.org/centennial-council> for more information.

Alison McCaffree- Libby Walker

The Pullman League of Women Voters received a \$400 award from the Washington Education Fund to bring Alison McCaffree to Pullman this spring. Alison is the Issue Chair on Census and Redistricting for the Washington State League of Women Voters. Although the pandemic precluded her trip to Pullman, she graciously agreed to offer a one hour presentation on census and redistricting via Zoom. Nearly 20 people participated in this first Brown Bag over Zoom! Alison's presentation was both educational and inspirational. She took many questions from those who participated.

Eva Abram- Libby Walker

Eva Abram uses the power of story-telling to share stories of accomplished African American women. Her stories build bridges that connect cultures. On February 20, 2020, she gave a one-woman performance of Nettie Craig Asberry at the Floyd Multicultural Center on the WSU campus. Asberry helped found the Tacoma NAACP and the Washington State Association of Colored Women's Clubs and was an early suffrage leader for minority women. Abram's performance was a compelling testimony to the accomplishments of this inspirational woman. She appeared in period costume and answered many questions from the audience. The Pullman LWV received a grant from the Washington State History Museum to cover her expenses.

Pi Day- Anne Lewis



A friend is like a piece of pie: You can never have too many and they make you happy when you're sad.

- Unknown

QuoteFave1.com

11! Members (including photographer Bobbie) attended Pi(e) Day 2020. This turned out to be our final in-person gathering of the League Year. A wide and delicious assortment of savory and sweet pies were shared. Although the Zoom meetings are going incredibly well in both facilitation and attendance, I look forward to the resumption of in-person league events when it is safe to do so. Friendship and pie are the best.

Note: Please know that gatherings under 250 were still permitted when this event (and photo) took place. Reasonable efforts were made to disinfect, wash hands copiously, etc.

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report- Lennis Boyer Watts

Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport Board Meeting of 4/29/2020

Observer Reporting: Lennis Boyer Watts

Members Present: Glen Johnson (Pullman Mayor), Bill Lambert (Moscow Mayor), Tony Bean (Executive Director), Paul Kimmel, Jon Kimberling, Ron Wachter, Dan Ewart, Brian Hemingway, Stacy Pearson. *This meeting was held remotely due to COVID 19.* Some members were present at the airport, others remotely.

Members Absent: none

Others Present (e.g., media, public) Cherri Gentry (Airport Administration), Michol Ann Jensen (City of Pullman), Kelly Brown (Airport Legal Counsel), Kevin Mulcaster (Mead Hunt), Brett Siweck (project manager for Mead Hunt), Alex Aegerter (Airport operations), Lennis Boyer Watts (LWV observer), Tim Thompson

Items discussed:

- **Budget** – revenue from all usual sources is down (carrier landing fees, auto parking, concession fees, rental cars) due to COVID 19

- **Passengers** - down 3000 this month.

Alaska Airlines decides the day before which flights will go. Are doing “tag team flights” – Seattle to Walla Walla to Pullman. Have been flying 7 days / week. Required to fly 5 days / week. Today is the first day without a flight.

- **Grant status** update – grants are being closed out as quickly as possible. Airport debt to Pullman City is almost closed.

- **COVID-19 Updates** – decrease in flights and passengers as noted above. About 10 passengers/flight so social distancing is maintained. The airport is working hard on wiping everything down. Supplying sanitizer and masks as necessary.

- **CARES Grant Funds** and Current Status – 10 billion dollars has been allocated to airports. Our airport was very lucky to have the terminal project planned and on track to finish within the 4- year parameter required. One of only a few airports to qualify. Awarded 9 million dollars which will pay for construction of the terminal.

- **Airport improvements.** Hall Road has needed more work than expected as it needs to be able to handle the huge trucks the contractor will be bringing in. All the work is starting a little late – not concerning at this point. Retention pond will be football field sized. Construction to start after the Hall road work.

- **Terminal updates** – Paul and each mayor will come up with a citizen committee for terminal design. Will discuss and present the members at the next board meeting.

- **Next meeting** -May 27th.

Adjourned at 3:45 PM.

Process & Protocol: *The board was well prepared and courteous.*

Reminder! : All Observer Corps reports are available on our website. Simply click on “Observer Program and Reports.” <http://www.lwvpullman.org/>



LWV of Pullman now has an Instagram account! This is another social media platform in which we can share information with people that want to see who we are and what we do. By using social media, we can reach a larger audience, help advance issues, and inspire change.

LWV Instagram Goals

- Promoting the good work that your League and other Leagues across the country are doing
- Sharing information on priority issues
- Engaging with other people or organizations focused on the same policies
- Reaching new audiences and increasing engagements with new and existing supporters, including a new youth-centric audience
- Highlighting our history and our engagement in multiple significant moments in our last 100 years as an organization.

Instagram is all about the photo along with a caption to provide context. Hashtags (#) are used to categorize the photos by theme or content. Here are some popular LWV hashtags: #LWV, #LWVHistory, #LWV100, #vote, #votingrights, #womensrights, #elections. Use **#LWVPullman** when posting photos related to our league issues and events.

If you have an Instagram account, follow us **@LWVPullman**. If you don't have the Instagram app you can download it from the App Store (iPhone) or Google Play Store (Android). Set up an account with a username, and an email/phone number.

Complete List of Board Officers:

President: Bobbie Ryder, 509-432-9619; **Vice-President:** Helen Catanese, hncatanese@gmail.com;
Secretary: Alice Schroeder, 509-334-2470; **Backup Secretary:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; **Treasurer:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Voter Service:** Deb Olson, 509-595-0333; **Observer Corps Chair:** Judy Stone, 509-595-0187; **Brown Bag Coordinator:** Rotating; **Voter Editor:** Anne Lewis, 509-334-1075; **Webmaster:** Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Social Media:** Bobbie Ryder, 509-432-9619; **Community Outreach:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756; **Community Update Editor:** Susan Daniels, 509-332-6699; **Membership:** Judy Stone, 509-595-0187; **Finance Coordinators:** Libby Walker, 509-432-4756 and Paul Spencer, 509-332-6699; **Finance Drive Thank-Yous:** Lenna Harding, 509-332-7749; **Nominating Chair:** Mary Collins, 509-592-6929; **TRY:** Susan Daniels, 509-332-6699



