



VOTER

October 2022

www.lwv-bf.org

President's Message ~ Beverly Johnson-Torelli

We are well into the General Election season and our members have been busy with Voter Registration and Education. On August 29th Ruvine Jimenez hosted a League of Education table at the Pasco School District Back-to-School staff event at Edgar Brown Stadium. She invited the LWVBF to share the table. Wendy Espinosa, Chair of the League's Civics Ed Committee, helped and as a result, had the opportunity to connect with Pasco teachers regarding the available presentations for their classrooms. Christine Grantham took the lead at the Naturalization Ceremony on September 14th and was even interviewed by the news media! On September 20th, National Registration Day, Lora took the initiative to organize an event at the Richland Food Bank. Legacy High School in Kennewick invited the League to attend their Back-to-School Resource Fair on September 29th. Thanks to everyone who participated in these opportunities! It is appreciated. The next scheduled Voter Registration and education event is November 1st at 10:00 am at the Federal Bldg. in Richland. Please join us if you are available. Some other opportunities may present themselves in October.

October 20th, 6:00 pm ~ Business/Planning Meeting via Zoom

The LWVBF General Election Forums are coming! Broadcasting will be through KTNW TV and Northwest Public Broadcasting at nwpb.org/vote_2022 from October 17th through the 20th. They can also be viewed through the Cities of Richland (ci.richland.wa.us & TV Channel 192) and Pasco (Pasco-wa.gov & TV Channel 191), the Columbia Basin Badgers Club website (columbiabasinbadgers.com) and the League's website and Facebook page at lwv-bf.org The General Election is Tuesday, NOVEMBER 8th, 2022. Ballots will be in mailboxes by October 21st. The deadline for online and mail in registration is October 31st. Registration and voting in person are available until 8:00 pm on November 8th. Reminders: Be sure that your signature matches your driver's license and that you put your phone number on

your ballot envelope so that you can easily be reached if there are any questions. The schedule for broadcasting is as follows:

Monday, October 17th at 7:00 pm (Repeated at 11:00 pm) - *Three Races*

8th Legislative District

State Senate - Batchelor and Boehnke

Rep Position 1 - Barnard and Guettner

Rep Position 2 – Connors and Cotta

Tuesday, October 18th at 7:00 pm (Repeated at 11:00 pm) - *Two Races*

16th Legislative District

16th Rep Position 1 – Klicker and Strickler

16th Rep Position 2 – Corn and Rude

Wednesday, October 19th at 7:00 pm (Repeated at 11:00 pm) - *Three Races*

Pasco SD, District 3 – Brown and Christensen

Benton Franklin District Court – Orosco and Villareal

Franklin Co. Commissioner - Didier and Miller

Thursday, October 20th at 7:00 pm (Repeated at 11:30 pm) - *Two Races*

Benton Co. Commissioner Pos. 2 – Alvarez and Jenkin

Benton Co. Prosecuting Attorney – Eisinger and Lukson

The WA State Debate Coalition and the Seattle City Club are sponsoring the following 2022 debates of interest to our region:

October 18th, at 7:00 p.m. - Secretary of State: Julie Anderson & Steve Hobbs at Schneebeck Hall, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma.

October 23rd, at 5:00 p.m. - U.S. Senate Candidate Forum: Patty Murray & Tiffany Smiley at Myrtle Woldson Performing Arts Center, Gonzaga University, Spokane. This forum is sponsored in partnership with the Spokesman-Review and the League of Women Voters.

October 25th, at 7:00 p.m. - U.S. Senate Debate: Patty Murray & Tiffany Smiley at Pigott Auditorium on the campus of Seattle University.

More information can be found by looking up 2022 Washington State Debate Coalition - Seattle City Club

Shoreline Study Information ~ Mary Coltrane

The LWVWA Board is pleased to announce that the [Shoreline Study](#) is now available for local Leagues to review, discuss and find consensus that can be used to write new positions for LWVWA and local League action.

With many new League members, and several years without state studies, the member consensus process can be a bit of a mystery. However, all our members can be part of this process. A key figure in this process is the discussion leader. To assist those who are discussion leaders and who are planning your local League's consensus meeting, the state Board is holding a meeting/discussion leader training. We will talk about the meeting plans and the discussion leader job.

If you are either involved in organizing your League's consensus meeting, or a discussion leader for your League, please shoot Mary Coltrane an email and she will **send you a link** to the training. All are welcome. If you are interested in becoming a discussion leader, please email Mary at marycoltrane@lwvwa.org. Two trainings will take place in early October. Here are the times:

Monday, 10/3 @ 10:00 am.

Tuesday, 10/4 @ 6:30 pm

Treasurer's Report ~ Shirley Sonnichsen

As of August 31, 2022:

Checking is: \$5,782.53

Savings is: \$1,856.92

Total : \$7,639.45

Income: \$375.00. We received dues from 5 people.

Expenses: \$347.49 There was \$3.11 in PayPal fees and \$344.38 for the 1st Qtr. Per Member Payment (PMP).

Membership and dues: The dues letter went out and if you haven't sent in your dues, please do. If you joined AFTER January 31st, you do not owe dues until September 2023. We have 96 members including 10 students, 11 second-in-household members. Long time members Susan Leckband and Judy Blair are not rejoining. They will be missed.

Education Fund: Our scholarship project for \$2,100 this fiscal year was approved by the State Education Fund Committee.

LWVBF Participates in National Voter Registration Day ~ Lora Rathbone

A Proclamation on National Voter Registration Day, 2022: “The right to vote is the foundation of our democracy — it defines us as Americans and serves as the cornerstone of our liberty. With it, anything is possible in America; without it, nothing is. It is a legacy passed down by our greatest leaders — a legacy which provides each one of us with a voice in the creation of a better Nation. It is the source of our power as citizens, our mightiest tool of social transformation, and the stabilizing tradition that confers legitimacy to our system of Government. Each year on National Voter Registration Day, we reaffirm our conviction that democracy only works when everyone can participate, and we encourage all eligible Americans to register to vote.” <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/09/19/a-proclamation-on-national-voter-registration-day-2022/>

Several LWVBF members “encourage[ed] all eligible Americans to register to vote” at the Richland Food Bank, on voter registration day, September 20th. The response was so rewarding that a few members went back on the 22nd, and plan to work there again on the 27th.

We not only helped citizens to register but provided them with voting tips and handed out free school supplies. One of the most frequent successes was letting past felons know they can now vote. And we have the LWVWA to thank for the new law that passed to make that possible! One woman was almost in tears, saying she thought she would never be able to vote. Many people there were not citizens, and we helped them feel welcome and encouraged them to vote as soon as they can. Thank you to Carla Chiotti and Amedee Marx for working both Tuesday and Thursday, and Michelle Pirotte and Karen Miller for Tuesday, and all who would have made it if they could!

Civic Education ~ Wendy Espinosa

School is back in session, and we are ready to help teachers with their Civic Education! I have contacted a few teachers in the Pasco and Kennewick School Districts regarding in-class LWV presentations covering voting, local representation, and good citizenship.

For our league’s Annual Equality Picnic, we had a fun crossword puzzle, followed by a look at what our WA Legislature means by “Civic Education” in our public schools. Below are links to high school graduation requirements for WA students.

Our Civics Education Committee would like to hear from everyone about their civic activities. Do you volunteer at your child’s school? Do you like to volunteer for civic-minded groups? Are you active in environmental concerns? Do you like to work with

seniors? Or perhaps you volunteer in youth groups. These are a just few examples of how we contribute to our neighborhood and communities. Civics Education is more than knowing how our government works. Civics Education is good citizenship that supports our whole community.

<https://leg.wa.gov/CivicEd/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=28A.230.094>

Building Resilience to Mis- and Disinformation ~ Judy Golberg

LWVUS offers some wonderful webinars. If you are interested but aren't sure how to access the upcoming topics, let me know and I'll help direct you.

This past month I signed up to participate in a webinar called *Building Resilience to Mis- and Disinformation*. Two key "take aways" from this webinar: 1) Language has power and 2) Do not engage.

The language you use to provide facts to the public is so powerful when it is used at the right time, in the right manner and in right place. Do not engage refers to your response to mis- or disinformation you come across.

Social media is the most likely place you will come across these misleading or untruthful statements. Do not give that person's statements any credence or larger audience by responding. Write your own statement providing facts on the same subject but post it separately. Do not refer to the mis-/dis- statement. The more people see it, the further it spreads.

Most of us want to respond immediately. Resist! I have personal experience with this so know it doesn't help. Next time you come across statements you know are misleading or untruthful and feel the facts should be shared, try using this process. You have a chance to state your facts while not providing any additional "airtime" for the dis-/mis statement.

LWVBF Book club ~ Polly Parton



At September's book club meeting, Judy Golberg and Peggy Gregory led the discussion of *Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love* by Dani Shapiro. We looked at what makes a family and how long held secrets affect us. October 10th we will read *Facing the Mountain* by Daniel James Brown. Judy Golberg will lead the discussion.

October 10th, 6:00 pm on Zoom- *Facing the Mountain* by Daniel James Brown

November 14th, 6:00 pm on Zoom- *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins

December- no meeting

January 9th, 6:00 pm- *Guests of the Emperor* by Janice Young Brooks

Other book suggestions are: *The Bomber Mafia* by Malcolm Gladwell, *A History of the World in 6 Glasses* by Tom Standage and *People We Meet on Vacation* by Emily Henry.

Please text or email (Polly) to be added to the Zoom invite. Polly Parton: 509-551-3818 or polly.parton@yahoo.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 10th, 6:00pm ~ Book Club

October 17th, 20th ~ Candidate Forums

October 20th, 6:00pm ~ Business/Planning Board Meeting via Zoom All members are welcome to participate

November 8th ~ General Election Day

November 1st, 10:00am ~ Naturalization Ceremony at the Richland Federal Building

Email us at:

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