

**VOTER**

**November 2022**

[www.lwv-bf.org](file:///C:\Users\Gregory\AppData\Local\Packages\microsoft.windowscommunicationsapps_8wekyb3d8bbwe\LocalState\Files\S0\3\Attachments\www.lwv-bf.org)

**President’s Message ~ Beverly Johnson-Torelli**

As we enter the month of November, we are reminded to give thanks for our many blessings and to give thanks to others.  First of all, I would like to extend my appreciation to all of the Board members for the time they spend attending and contributing to our meetings. That includes the officers, elected directors and appointed directors. The League consistently depends on Secretary, Diane Molleson, Treasurer, Shirley Sonnichsen, and Voter editor, Peggy Gregory. Diane also coordinates our TRY Brochures and Observer Corps.  The Civics Ed Committee, including the Chair Wendy Espinosa, along with Janet Nail, Lora Rathbone and Polly Parton hold regular meetings and have given a number of excellent classroom presentations. Several other members have joined the committee meetings, which is greatly appreciated!  Janet is also the Membership Chair and in addition, is always willing to help out with whatever League needs. Lora is our Advocacy Chair. She keeps us informed and encourages us with her passion, especially for legislation and climate issues. Polly is our MELD (Membership Engagement Leadership Development) representative. She gives us excellent written feedback, which she also does for the West Richland members when she attends West Richland City Council.  In addition, Polly recently started our Book Club.

From early May through November 1st, many members have participated in doing at least thirteen voter registration and education events at various locations. They include four days at CBC, Pasco School District’s Staff Back to School Day, Legacy High School Resource Fair, and three days at the Richland Food Bank beginning with Voter Registration Day, September 20th.  Additional registration events included the Richland Uptown Fall Festival and three Naturalization Ceremonies. Those who graciously volunteered their time on at least one or more of these occasions, include Christine Grantham, Lora Rathbone, Ruvine Jimenez, Wendy Espinosa, Kelly Doyle, Karen Miller, Barb Puigh, Polly Parton, Amedee Marx, Michele Pirotte, Carla Chiotti, JoAnne Dimond, Lynne Harrison, and Karis Alderson. Karis is a new member who has already stepped in and taken pictures at several events, including the Equality picnic.

Although Judy Golberg is not a Board member, she is the host for our Zoom Board meetings. She also manages the League’s website and FaceBook page, along with the help of Polly Parton and Lynne Harrison.  She is currently the Chair of the Scholarship Committee, which also includes co-chair Peggy Gregory, Shirley Sonnichsen, Chris Grantham, Leona Hassing, Kirby Amacker, Wendy Espinosa, Diane Molleson, and Shari Gasperino.  Leona has also recently agreed to be our next MELD representative and has already attended the October meeting.

Bree Bowen does publicity and stepped up to be an elected Board member when it was needed. She and Judy are Peggy’s meticulous proofreaders for the Voter.

JoAnne Dimond and Kay Ottem once again contacted all of the candidates and invited them to our Primary and General Election Candidate Forums. They then continued to follow up with several reminders, and along with Polly Parton, greeted the candidates at the WSU Tri-Cities studio when they were recorded in person. As always, Ruvine did a great job of delivering the League’s introduction.  Thanks also go to NWPB, including moderator Matt Loveless, Greg Mills, Matt Kawamura, and the rest of the production crew. We appreciate our additional partners as well: Mark Ingham at the City of Richland, who also helped with editing, Jon Funfar at the City of Pasco and Kirk Williamson, President of the Columbia Basin Badger Club. They have all continued to support our Forums by posting, streaming and/or broadcasting them.

Chuck LoPresti has graciously agreed to take Susan Leckband’s place in representing the LWV on the Hanford Advisory Board. His term will actually start next fall. It is appreciated. Chuck has also done an excellent job of acting as the League’s coordinator for the paid pilot program in monitoring the balloting process at the Benton County Auditor’s Office. Thanks also to all the other participants, including Susan Kreid, Polly Parton, Chris and Richard Grantham, Miriam Kerzner, Kelly Doyle and Janie Treadway. Their time is so appreciated.  In addition, Chris spearheaded our Election Security public discussion at CBC on June 22nd, which included a voter registration/education table and members of the news media. Tracci Dial from KNDU was the moderator.  It was very well done.

Thanks to Judy Golberg, Shirley Sonnichsen, JoAnne Dimond and Karen Miller for volunteering to be on the Shoreline Study Committee. The first meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. on November 9th on Zoom. A call for consensus on this issue will be made at the LWVWA convention at the Holiday Inn Express in Pasco on May 4th-7th in 2023. Miriam Kerzner is on the state Board and is the liaison between LWVBF and LWVWA.

On October 20th Shelley Jones from the LWVWA Nominating Committee made a presentation to our Board soliciting for the following positions: President, Vice President, Secretary, three Board of Directors, Nominating Committee Chair and two Nominating Committee Members for a total of 9 positions.  Applications are due January 31st, 2023. Interviews with Candidates will be scheduled: January/February 2023. The slate will be announced on March 15th, 2023.

The election is scheduled for Convention in May of 2023.  Interested members are encouraged to apply.

**Kamiakin** **High School** **Open House Resource Fair ~ November 21st**

League has been invited to the Kamiakin High School Open House Resource Fair on November 21st from noon-7:30pm. There is no school that day as K-12 Conferences are being held. We will have the opportunity to do voter registration and education with students, parents and staff. The day will be broken up into shifts as follows:

11:30am-1:30pm

1:30pm-3:30pm

3:30pm-5:30pm

5:30pm-7:30pm

Please volunteer for one or more shifts if you are available. RSVP to Bev at [sasjoh@aol.com](file:///C:\Users\J_Gol\AppData\Local\Packages\Microsoft.Office.Desktop_8wekyb3d8bbwe\AC\INetCache\Content.Outlook\X89DR2ZZ\sasjoh@aol.com) Your help is always appreciated.

**Important League Dates:**

**November 17t h** ~ **Dinner at 4:30pm at Kennewick Azteca Restaurant, 2807 West 10th Avenue**. The evening will include an election debrief discussion and a few Board agenda items. Then at **7:00 pm – Attend Community Lecture Series at East Benton County Historical Museum at 205 Keewaydin** **in Kennewick** entitled “Humanity in Print: Literature and Human Rights” presented by Richard Middleton-Kaplan. It is free.  Please join us in person for this fun evening! RSVP to Bev at [asjoh@aol.com](mailto:asjoh@aol.com) to ensure an accurate count for dinner reservations.  If you wish, you are welcome to come for the dinner and meeting only or the Humanities presentation only.

**December 10th**,  **~**  League Action Workshop – 9:00 am - 5:00 pm - Location TBD (Virtual?)

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

**January 14th,** ~Program Planning – 10:00 am to noon – Zoom

**You may be interested in the upcoming Badger Club programs:**

**November 3rd, ~** What Does Local Control of Schools Really Mean?

**November 17th ~** Election 2022 with Analyst and Author Peter Wehner (Fun Fact: He grew up in Richland and graduated from Hanford High School, another celebrity in our midst.)

**December 8th, ~**  Ranked Choice Voting

**Go to columbiabasinbadgers.com to register. Nonmembers pay $5.00 to attend a program.**

**Treasurer’s Report ~ Shirley Sonnichsen**

As of September 30, 2022

**Checking is $5,849.66**

**Savings is $1,856.93**

**Total $7,706.59**

**Income:  $1,805.00.** We received **$**1,605.00 in dues and $200.00 in contributions. Three were second-in-household members.

**Expenses:** **$1,738.00.** There was $163.00 paid to Zoom, $11.00 in PayPal fees, $60.00 for stamps, $344.00 for the 2nd Quarter. PMP to the state league; $1,160.00 for 1st and 2nd Quarter. PMP’s to the National league.

**Membership and dues*:*** Dues were due on September 30th, and we have received dues and contributions from 32 members. The final tally occurs January 31st when the members are included or excluded from the National database. We currently have 96 members including 10 students, 11 second-in-household members.

**Education Fund:** Our scholarship project for $2,100.00 this fiscal year was approved, and the Scholarship committee is working on the process.

**LWVBF BOOK CLUB ~ Polly Parton**

November 14th, 6:00pm we will be discussing *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

If you are interested in participating in the book club, please contact Polly via text or email at 509-551-3818 or [pollyparton@yahoo.com](mailto:pollyparton@yahoo.com) to be added to the Zoom invite.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

November 14th, 6:00pm ~ Book club via Zoom

November 17th, 4:30pm ~. Election debrief and Board agenda items. Dinner at Kennewick Azteca Restaurant

November 17th, 7:00pm ~. Humanity in Print: Literature and Human Rights Presentation by Richard Middleton-Kaplan at East Benton County Historical Museum.

December 10th, 9:00am-5:00pm ~ League Action Workshops Location TBD.

January 9th, 6:00pm ~ Book Club via Zoom

January 14th, 10:00am-noon ~ Program Planning via Zoom

[lwv.of.bf@gmail.com](mailto:lwv.of.bf@gmail.com)

**Mailing Address:**

League of Women Voters of Benton and Franklin Counties

P.O.Box 765

Richland, WA 99352

**OFFICERS:**

President: Beverly Johnson-Torelli

1st Vice President: Polly Parton

2nd Vice President: Karen Miller

Secretary: Diane Molleson

Treasurer: Shirley Sonnichsen

**ELECTED DIRECTORS:**

Bree Bowen

Wendy Espinosa

Ruvine Jimenez

Janet Nail

Lora Rathbone

**APPOINTED DIRECTORS:**

Christine Grantham

Peggy Gregory

Leona Hassing

Sabiha Khan

**VOTER EDITOR**: Peggy Gregory