



July/August 2011

# THE VOTER

www.lwvcla.org

## The League of Women Voters of Clallam County

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*Appreciation is extended to Marilyn Bruning for acting as assistant to the editor/proofreader of The Voter.*

*To submit information to website or to comment: webmaster Ruth Marcus, rmarcus@olypen.com, or webmaster Genaveve Starr, genaveve@msn.com*

### Calendar of Events

July 23 Primary Candidates Debate Sequim Senior Activity Center,  
2:00 to 3:45  
Sequim City Council Position No 2  
SARC Parks and Recreation Commissioner Postion 5

### From the President:

As most of you know, Lou Templeton and I were to be co-Presidents for the coming year, but she has decided to move to Seattle to make her life a bit easier. It is a huge loss for our League and for me personally. However, we will carry on. I feel a bit in over my head, but I have a wonderful Board and some good advisors (four past presidents: Penny, Candace, Vicci, and Sue) who are always available for consultation and advice.

We have a new secretary, Nancy Wiersma, who has a wealth of experience of that job and of our League. She has been a member of our League since 1998 and was secretary for five years in the 2000's. And we have a new Treasurer, Karen Westwood, who had a career in banking, securities trading, portfolio management, and managing a staff of analysts. We have a new publicity chair, Carolyn Gill. We welcome Carolyn to the Board and her new duties, and thank her for taking this on. And Pat MacRobbie has agreed to be our new program coordinator. Most Leagues around the country have such a person to help make the president's job easier. I'm so glad to have Pat on our team.

On June 28-29 the Board had our planning Retreat at Ft. Worden where we covered a lot of territory. We are all looking forward to a great year. I had to write this before the Retreat so I can't really tell you much about it yet.

Our Observer Corp continues their good work of being a presence at public meetings of our local decision-making bodies and providing all of us with their reports.

Voter Services will be active holding debates before the local primary and general elections.

We have four active program areas: education (getting more sustainability and civics education in our public school system) headed by Carrol Hull, health care (informing the public about the Affordable Care Act and continuing to push for health care for all) headed by Sara Johnson, food safety (educating the public about GMOs and other food safety issues) headed by Jeri Weinhold, and water (participating in the public process surrounding WRIA rules from the state Department of Ecology) headed by Sonja Rotter.

Your League needs your support, so when someone asks you to help on one of these committees or for an event, I hope you will say yes.  
Nancy Esteb

Dear membership:

Saying Goodbye

In June I moved to Seattle to simplify my life.

A goodbye can be good or can be bad. I choose "good" for three reasons.

First, it's good that I'm leaving on a high note. This year as president has been challenging yet I didn't mess up too often. What fun it's been! Second, LWVCLA is becoming stronger and more active with every new member. What a terrific group of women and men! Third, Nancy Esteb is a leader extraordinaire.

So it's a good bye, friends. I'll be watching you from a 17th floor apartment in downtown Seattle. Have a great year.

Lou Templeton

Have you heard the wonderful news? Candace Pratt will be running for Sequim City Council. As a result, she has resigned as chair of Voter Services. Tell your friends and neighbors to vote for a voice of reason and good governance.

### League Dues

MEMBERSHIP DUES IS DUE. If you haven't sent in your check, please do it today. Individual dues is \$60; Household is \$90 payable to LWVCLA, P.O. Box 982, Port Angeles, WA 98362.

### Candidates Decision Process Forum

On Saturday, May 21, our League offered for the first time a forum on the decision-making process for citizens considering a run for office. Penney Van Vleet, Judith Parker, Pat MacRobbie, Laura Dubois, and Pat Johansen (a former League member) worked together to create this forum, with the purpose of encouraging people to run for office and of providing guidance on how to make a good decision of this kind. The panelists were community leaders who had given constructive consideration to the opportunity of candidacy at least once: Mike Doherty and Carol Boardman (County Commissioners),

Virginia Oneil and Cindy Kelly (School Boards), Max Mania and Laura Dubois (City Councils). Their message emphasized researching the tasks required of the desired office and being clear about motivation and commitment.

The forum was small (about ten attendees), but the committee noted that this was a first attempt. Both panelists and attendees found the discussion useful, and the same committee is now considering for the near future a second forum focused on the "nuts and bolts" of running a campaign.

## The League Needs Your Help

Want to work on Voter Services?

Because Candace is running for Sequim City Council, she can't be chair of Voter Services. Right now that committee has two members, Laura Lanka and Sharon Lee, who know their jobs but don't want to be the new chair. The new chair could easily be co-chairs. But first, we just need more people on the committee. If you've ever been a timer or a runner or a sorter or a moderator, you know what debates are all about. Please contact Laura (504-2247 or [daisie53@wavecable.com](mailto:daisie53@wavecable.com))

or Sharon (683-8145 or [lport@olypen.com](mailto:lport@olypen.com)) to volunteer to help them.

Want to help plan events?

We have six events coming up this year: the Winter Potluck, Hot Topics Lunch (fundraiser), Program Planning in the spring, March Women's History Month event (fundraiser), Annual Meeting, and another fundraising event sometime. We need more people to help on these events. So if you would be willing to help, please contact Nancy Esteb ([betseesteb@yahoo.com](mailto:betseesteb@yahoo.com) or 681-8490)

## Membership Committee Report

We are happy to report that 37 new members have joined since February 2010. We now have 10 subscribers. We have had no membership meetings in the last month. We did have a table at the Biomass Forum on May 23rd.

Marcia attended the State Convention May 20th-23rd in Richland. Most important for our committee were workshops and discussions with Marcia Merrins, LWVUS Board of

Directors who publishes Membership Moments and gave a talk on recruiting and retaining members. She's a dynamo and inspiration. We agree that our membership depends on members recruiting friends and colleagues. If you need more League business cards, please see Marcia or Ruth.

Who do you know to make us grow?

Marcia Radey

## League Book Club Review of Breaking Ground

The author, Lynda V. Mapes, weaves the threads of the three central parties into her account of the decision by the State of Washington to build a massive dry dock in Port Angeles. The Department of Transportation needed to build the structure to repair the Hood Canal Bridge, and they chose a 22 acre waterfront site in Port Angeles. However, when they broke ground in 2003, they found artifacts and bones that eventually were identified as part of Tse-whit-zen, an ancient village of the Lower Elwha

Klallam Tribe. Ms. Mapes guides the reader to a full understanding of the different viewpoints of all the involved parties, through interviews, historical research and photographs. The University of Washington publisher notes: "She engages all the voices involved in the dry dock controversy to explore how the decisions were made, first to proceed and then to abandon the project, as well as the aftermath and implications of those choices".

## Introducing a New Member

Linda Benson. Linda and her husband moved to Sequim in 2007. She has been a speech therapist and teacher in the public schools – California, Alaska and Dublin, Ireland. Her husband was a school psychologist. They have one son and a 3-year-old granddaughter.

Linda loves the work of the League and looks forward to participating through Voter Services, Education, and/or Healthcare. She brings many talents including facilitating, moderating and writing. Please add her to your roster: [olyview@olympen.com](mailto:olyview@olympen.com).

Welcome, Linda!

## League Leadership

Nancy Esteb, President  
360.681.8490 / [betseesteb2@yahoo.com](mailto:betseesteb2@yahoo.com)

Nancy Wiersema, Secretary  
683-1812 / [NWiersema@olympus.net](mailto:NWiersema@olympus.net)

Karen Westwood, Treasurer  
683-1882 / [kwestwood@seanet.com](mailto:kwestwood@seanet.com)

Ruth Marcus, Membership Co-Chair  
681-2205 / [rmarcus@olympen.com](mailto:rmarcus@olympen.com)

Marcia Radey, Membership Co-Chair  
683-9622 / [chasmard@juno.com](mailto:chasmard@juno.com)

Genaveve Starr, Newsletter/Webmaster  
360.683.7637 / [genaveve@msn.com](mailto:genaveve@msn.com)

Pat MacRobbie, Program Coordinator  
681-2056 / [macrobbie@olympus.net](mailto:macrobbie@olympus.net)

Carrol Hull, Sustainability/Education  
683-5199 / [CAHull@msn.com](mailto:CAHull@msn.com)

Sonja Rotter, Water Study  
452-2413 / [benrotr@mindspring.com](mailto:benrotr@mindspring.com)

Sara Johnson, Health Care  
582-0272 / [sara@waltandsara.com](mailto:sara@waltandsara.com)

Sue Erzen, Observer Corps  
681-4916 / [s.erzen6@olympen.com](mailto:s.erzen6@olympen.com)

Carolyn Gill, Public Relations  
683-7617 / [cdgill@wavecable.com](mailto:cdgill@wavecable.com)



P.O. Box 982  
Port Angeles, WA 98362

## YES! I wish to join.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (evening) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Our mailing list is NOT shared with any other organization.

Individual Member \$ 60

Additional contribution to support the local League \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Household Member \$ 90

Student Member \$ 30

Clara Carlson Memorial Membership \$120

I am unable to join at this time, but I support the League by enclosing a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**Mail check payable to LWVCLA. Send to:**

League of Women Voters of Clallam County

P.O. Box 982, Port Angeles, WA 98362

Questions? Call Marcia Radey 683-2490 or Sara Johnson 582 0272