



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

March 3	Food Policy Council	Basement Court House 2—4:00
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Study Constitution	Pt Angeles Library 1:00—3:00
March 8	League Book Club	Sequim Library 2:00—4:00
March 11	Sustainability Committee	Pt Angeles Library 2:00—4:00
March 19	Film: "Iron Jawed Angels"	Olympic Theatre Arts 6:30 pm
	Education Committee to be announced	
April 16	Forum on GEO's	St. Luke's Sequim 2:30—5:00

President's Message: In Like a Lion, Out Like a Lamb

March is a roaring, busy month for us. Here's what is in store for you.

The month is designated as Women's History month. A creative committee made up of Rebecca Redshaw, Ruth Marcus, Kathy Langhoff, and Marsha Carr have planned a showing of *Iron Jawed Angels*, the moving story of the women who worked to get women the right to vote. Look for details on page two.

Also don't miss the Peninsula College Studium Generale program March 10, 12:35. *Shattered Ceilings*, a celebration of remarkable women who changed our nation, will be presented by Readers Theatre Plus.

On page seven, read about Sunshine Week, March 13-19 .

I'm especially excited about the reading and discussion of the U. S. Constitution during March. Information about this event is on page two.

That's March. In contrast, April comes in quietly, but on April 16, things pick up with an educational forum on Genetically Engineered Food. Check *What Do You Know About the Food You Eat* on page six for more information. You will also enjoy reading about Earth Day on page six.

You are the League, and you make these activities and events possible whether your style is like that of a lion or a lamb. You are needed, whatever your style.

Lou Templeton

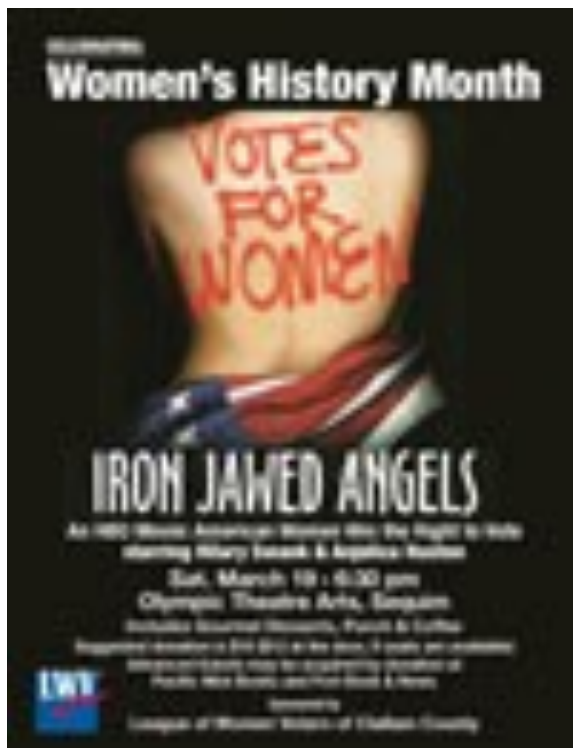
Reading and Understanding the Constitution

Led by Historian Charles Strickland
Every Wednesday in March, Beginning March 2
Port Angeles Public Library, Carver Room
1:00 to 3:00 pm

Participation is free, but space is limited to 40 persons.
For further information and to enroll in the course,
Call Charles at 360-417-2984



National Women's History Month



Women's History Month is a time to reflect reflect, a time to honor, and a time to appreciate each other. You and I stand on the shoulders of women who led the woman-suffrage movement – Susan B. Anthony, Lucy Burns, Carrie Chapman Catt, Ida Harper, Alice Paul, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton – powerful women, committed to winning our right to vote.

The League of Women Voters of Clallam County is celebrating Women's History Month by showing the BBC docudrama, Iron Jawed Angels – a movie portraying the efforts of the early Suffragettes. The event will be held at Olympic Theatre Arts, March 19, 6:30 p.m. Gourmet desserts and coffee will be included. Donation, \$10. Bring your friends!

Ruth Marcus



The League Book Club

The book club will meet March 8
At the Sequim Library at 2:00 pm

The story of Jarvious Cotton, whose great-great-grandfather could not vote as a slave. His great-grandfather was beaten to death by the Klu Klux Klan for attempting to vote. His grandfather was prevented from voting by Klan intimidation; his father was barred by poll taxes and literacy tests. Today, Cotton cannot vote because he, like many black men in the United States, has been labeled a felon and is currently on parole.

Proposals for State 2011-13 Program and LWVCLA 2011-12 Program

About 40 members convened at Sequim Public Library January 25th, to discuss options for State and Local program. Thanks to all in attendance, particularly all the new members. A huge thank you to those who reviewed the positions and presented their suggestions to the group. Your advance work streamlined the sometimes laborious process of reviewing positions.

This annual program planning meeting is seldom neat and tidy, but discussion, questions and observations help to clarify ideas being proposed, and that helps each person decide what's most important to work on. We don't entertain any suggestion for local program that doesn't have someone willing to take charge of it. Then again, State doesn't like to see a proposal without a leader either.

As a result of consensus, the following has been approved by the board and sent to State:

1. Study: the effects of burning Biomass
2. Update: Social policy Position
3. Study: Ramifications of an appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction and centralized Department of Education Governor's cabinet

Local Program to be proposed at the Annual Meeting in May:

Food safety/health Education

Carrying Capacity was withdrawn by the committee, perhaps to reappear next year. Bear in mind this proposed local Program is an addition to the activities of our committees. State will be looking for someone to head up our suggestions, so if you are interested, please call Lou.

Candace Pratt, facilitator



Special thanks to Candace Pratt for superb facilitation of Program Planning 2011.



Judith Parker reports as Candace Pratt facilitates

The League would like to thank these donors to our Education Fund.

If you would like join this august group, please consider a tax-deductible donation in any amount to support the educational activities and events of League of Women Voters of Clallam County

Ed Chadd	Eldora Pederson
Virginia Clark	Tommie Schwent
Jerolyn Coan	Alda Siebrands
Mike and Paula Doherty	Lou Templeton
Pat MacRobbie	Kevin Van de Wege
Sandra Marsh	Bruce and Carol Von Borste
Grant and Lu Meiner	Barbara Wiesman
Robert and Ina Palmer	Nancy Wiersema

Ruth S. Shur Leadership Institute

At the LWV national convention in Atlanta last June, Walter Shur announced his gift to the League in honor of his wife, Ruth S. Shur, who had been a dedicated member of the League. With this gift the League established the Ruth S. Shur Leadership Institute to train Ruth S. Shur Fellows to support and strengthen emerging League leadership on the state and local levels.

It was so exciting to realize that our National League not only understood what was happening to the League and many other organizations across the country.... membership was declining and the members were aging; but they were about to do something about it. Several years ago they brought out a program to build membership and now they are tackling how we manage our organization and involve our members.

This program should bring all of us into the 21st century and provide the tools to continue to make our organization and communities more viable. And now, thanks to the Clallam County League for nominating me, I have just been named a Ruth S. Shur fellow.

I was talking to my older brother in California, who is an activist in his community on water issues, and he reminded me of how our dad, in the 1970's, was involved in the same issues with his organization, the Masons. So, the acorn didn't fall far from the tree!

Penney Van Vleet

A hearty round of applause for our own Ruth S. Shur Fellow. Congratulations, Penney!

Wine-and-Cheese for New Members



Sara Johnson, Marcia Radey and Ruth Marcus of the Membership Committee, hosted a wine-and-cheese event on January 31st at Sunland. This was an opportunity for new League members to meet the the board members, to find out more about how the League functions, and to get acquainted with one another. It was a most enjoyable occasion.



Judith Parker, Nancy McPhee, and Carrol Hull



Lou Templeton, Karen Westwood, and Nina Richards



Nancy Grier with Candace Pratt

Moderator/Sorter Training Session Set

Forums are an important aspect of League. Because they are for the public, we are very visible and accountable for what goes on. So it's no surprise League has high standards for putting on forums.

Every forum or debate needs a moderator and two sorters. The moderator learns to take charge of the event. His/her demeanor sets the tone and assures the candidates that order will prevail. You will be expected to attend a forum before you moderate so you can observe an experienced moderator "in action."

Why train sorters? Sorters role is very important to the success of the event.

Our very experienced and capable moderators, Vicci Rudin and Anne Murray, will share their expertise and answer your questions. You won't be disappointed.

Plan to attend the training on Monday, April 11, 2 pm, Four Seasons Ranch Clubhouse, 673 Strait View Drive, Port Angeles. To reserve your space, contact Candace at 582-0114 or candacep@wavecable.com.

What Do You Know About the Food You Eat?

Mark Saturday April 16 on your calendar for the Food Health and Safety Committee's first event, an educational forum on the exploration of genetically engineered foods. Some of the questions we hope to answer are: What are GMOs and GE foods? Are there health issues involved? Are there Environmental issues involved? Should the

public care? Do they have a choice?

We hope to see you Saturday, April 16 2:30 -5 PM at St. Luke's Church, Sequim.

You will hear more as the date comes closer.

Jeri Weinhold, chair, Food Health and Safety Committee

Education Committee Report

The Education Committee met in January and brainstormed some ideas for how the League could support civics education in our schools. We reviewed the standards of each grade level and decided that our efforts could be more effective at the secondary level. Some of the ideas generated included establishing a speaker series of our elected officials at the local and state levels to speak in classes or for other student gatherings. We also want

to make sure that there is some kind of voter registration program at each school. There was discussion on creating field trips so students could attend forums. Another idea was to prepare some materials Or experiences for students for Constitution Day which occurs in September. A second meeting of this group will be in March, date and place to be announced.

Sustainability Committee -- Team Reports

Sustainable Education: Clallam County School Districts have been invited to submit names of teachers to receive the LWVCLA Sustainable/Environmental Teacher Commendation. The deadline for applicants is April 1st. The League will recognize a teacher from each of the five School Districts for their contribution to Environmental/Sustainable Education. We continue to work with science teacher Dave Ritter at Sequim High School and are looking to support a student project for Earth Day.

educate the community on the challenges offered to our national food sustainability.

Food Policy Council: League members continue to support the organizing efforts of the Food Policy Council. The League will conduct a forum in the fall in conjunction with some of their goals and issues. FPC meetings are open to the public. The next meeting will be on March 3 from 2:00-4:00pm in the basement of the County Court House, Port Angeles.

Food Health and Safety Committee: The committee will hold its first forum April 16 on genetically engineered organisms (GEO's) at St Luke's in Sequim from 2:30 to 5:00 to

Next Sustainability Meeting: March 11, Port Angeles Library, 2:00 to 4:00 pm.

Carrol Hull

Biomass Committee Report

Lou Templeton, Shirley Nixon, and Nancy Esteb met February 1 to discuss the proposed Nippon Paper Industries' biomass project. Shirley provided background for the current legal activity. The City of Port Angeles reviewed the project and granted a simple Shoreline Substantial Development permit rather than a Shoreline Conditional Use Permit. A CUP would have required a higher standard of scrutiny and would have allowed for further review and mitigation conditions by Department of Ecology. Shirley is a member of one of the seven environmental organizations that appealed the City Council. In December 2010, the Council upheld the Planning Commission's permit decision. The environmental groups have now filed an appeal with the Shoreline Hearings Board.

Another agency reviewing the Nippon project is the Olympic Region Clean Air Agency-ORCCA —which enforces the federal and state Clean Air Acts and is

reviewing Nippon's application for permission to proceed with construction. ORCCA's review includes a public comment period on the agency's preliminary decision. The environmental groups have stated that they plan to weigh-in strongly in the ORCCA process as well.

While the Shoreline permit is under litigation and with other potential Clean Air litigation ahead, the parties are not free to speak in public. Therefore, we feel now is not the time for a forum.

Nancy is following the ORCCA process. Shirley continues to follow the Shoreline Review Board activities. Lou will follow activity at the state LWV and Legislature levels which includes a request from LWVCLA that the state League support a one-year statewide moratorium on permitting new biomass projects. As activities proceed on any of these fronts, we will report to membership.

Nancy Esteb, Chair
Biomass Committee

Observer Corps — Spreading Sunshine

I hope you have enjoyed reading our observer reports! If you are not receiving them on line, please let me know. League members are observing City Council meetings in PA and Sequim, the Olympic Medical Center Board meetings, and the Port of Port Angeles Commissioner meetings.

The week of March 13-19th is Sunshine Week. This week marks the importance of open meetings in government and freedom of information. Our Observer Corps members are happy to be spreading light on the workings of local boards and councils (especially since there has been so little sunny weather).

If you are considering joining the observer corps or would just like to participate in Sunshine week, join us at any of the following meetings. Feel free to contact me or the League Observers listed below.

Monday March 14th Port of Port Angeles
9:30 AM (Ann Gilliam & Susan Zurcher)

Monday March 14th Sequim City Council
6:00 PM (Marcia Radey & Marjorie Whitmore)

Tuesday March 15th PA City Council 6:00
PM (Vicci Rudin)

Wednesday March 16th Hospital Board
6:00 (Tommie Schwent & Dorie Reher)

Sue Erzen, Chair
Observer Corps

Hot Off the Press

The 2011 TRY has arrived and is being distributed. They Represent You (TRY), a free service of the LWVCLA, is used in Clallam County by citizen activists to identify and contact their representatives.

We want to thank Lou Lovely, whom we think was the first person to edit TRY. She doesn't remember the year she started or how long she was responsible, but she says it was a long time ago. Editors of TRY are League heroes. Ida Fintel, editor for the last two years, is one of those heroes. Thank you, Ida, for seeing that TRY was edited,

updated, printed, and distributed. That kind of work takes a real hero.

The expense of providing 3,000 copies for distribution throughout Clallam County is substantial for a small non-profit like our League. TRY would not have been possible this year without the support of our donors to the Education Fund. Any amount given to help cover the cost will be greatly appreciated. Your gift to the LWVCLA Education Fund is tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

League Leadership

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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