

League of Women Voters of Benton-Franklin Counties

THE VOTER

Marilyn Perkins, President // Judy Golberg, Editor

P. O. Box 765, Richland, WA 99352

May 2011

Calendar of Events

May 5	6:30 PM	CONVENTION COMMITTEE – Judy Golberg’s Home
May 19	1:00 PM	WINE TOUR –sign up if interested (see convention article)
May 20-22		LWVWA STATE CONVENTION – Shilo Inn, Richland
June 2	5:30 PM	LWVBF ANNUAL MEETING – All Saints’s Episcopal Church, Richland

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

ANNUAL MEETING

What: The last meeting of the League year that helps us set an agenda and budget for the coming year, elect officers and board members and enjoy the company of other League members.

Where: All Saints Episcopal Church in Richland, at 1322 Kimball Street between Williams and Symons.

When: Thursday June 2, 5:30 pm.

Why: The bylaws require it and officially, it marks the end of one year and the beginning of a new one.

Every year our League holds its Annual Meeting to vote on new officers, bylaw changes, a budget and program for the upcoming year. We hope that all members will attend.

We have a potluck first and any contribution of a main dish, salad or side or dessert is welcome. We always have plenty of food, so if it is a busy day for you come without food.

Set up begins at 5:00 and all are welcome if you have the time. We will have a short social time from 5:30-5:45 and begin eating at 5:45. Business follows

There is still time to suggest a program idea for next year. The board recommends continuing the study on sustainable communities. Some additional suggestions so far include programs to prevent bullying; looking at the budgets of local school districts and city governments; an update on mental health services; funding of the Public Health District; resources for the homeless. Send ideas to Marilyn.

The Annual Meeting Packet will be mailed to all members two weeks before the meeting. It will include the budget, recommended program, bylaw revisions and nominated officers and board members.

Part of the packet will include reports on what our League has done this year. As president, we seem to move from project to project and program to program, but when I look at the year as a whole I realize how much we have accomplished this year. I hope that when you get your packet you will take the time to look at it and think of ideas that you might have to make our League more productive and relevant in the upcoming year.

Bring your League nametag if it is handy but we will also have regular nametags available. An order for our newer members and for members who may wish to replace a missing name tag or get a second one will be made soon.

President, [Marilyn Perkins](#), 783-8610

LOCAL LEAGUE

MAY TABLE TALK

No Table Talk in May. Convention Committee will meet that evening.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

Thursday, May 5, **6:30 PM** the Convention Planning committee will meet at Judy Golberg’s home, 1914 Meadows Drive North, Richland. Call 627-5347 for directions. This will be held after dinner to make it easier for everyone to get here without excessive traffic.

Thanks to Kathy Utz for calling members to ask if they are available to help during convention. Anyone is welcome to attend this convention planning meeting but it is not required. The chair of the individual projects will let their volunteers know what is expected.

Marilyn is organizing a small **dinner for State Board members** on Thursday evening, May 19. If you are available to help, please contact Marilyn at 783-8610. This is also the day of the Wine Tour

Wine Tour: If local league members are interested in going on this tour, please contact [Helen LaDouceur](#) and have your name placed on the list. The tour is \$25. If the bus is not full, we will take local members—first come, first served!

If you are working during convention, please consider staying for lunch or dinner. This is a good way to hear our guest speakers and learn more about league. Guests are welcome for the meals.

Friday and Saturday dinners are \$40, Saturday lunch is a Mexican buffet for \$26. If you want to come early and have the buffet breakfast, it costs \$10. If you would like to have meals with us during convention, we need to know so meals are ordered. There are choices for dinner meals. **Call Marilyn or Judy as soon as possible** to get signed up and select your entree!

Friday evening's speaker is Marcia Merrins, national board member discussing Membership; Saturday lunch speaker is Jill Conrad, Tribal Affairs Program Manager at DOE who will speak on the Future of the Columbia River; and Saturday evening the State League's Education Fund is honoring some of our local people with the Good in Government award and the dinner speaker will be Lura Powell, Chair of the Washington State Redistricting Commission.

Friday morning we have a bonus speaker, George Last who is speaking on the Ice Age Flood! Come hear George at 9:30 AM. Saturday morning speakers (non-meal related) are: Mike Schwenk - Science and Public Policy at 9:30 AM and Kathy Hibbard - Energy Options for the Future at 10:45 AM.

Local people being honored Saturday include Zona Lenhart from Pasco and the teachers and students at River's Edge in Richland and the *We the People* program.

Workshops will be held Friday and Saturday afternoons on a variety of League programs, processes and issues.

If you have any questions regarding convention, please contact [Judy Golberg](#), 627-5347.

SUNSHINE CHAIR

Contact Ginger if you know of a member who is ill, injured, or in need of sympathy or cheering up.

[Ginger Vetrano](#), 783-9205

MEMBERSHIP

If you have moved or changed an address or know someone interested in League, please contact [Leona Hassing](#), 492-4111, Membership Chair.

Welcome to our new member Kristin Eby and welcome back Sheila Sullivan.

UPDATE ON HANFORD

Sue Leckband, League member and Chairman of the Hanford Advisory Board wanted our members to be aware of this multimedia presentation available on youtube.com.

First Chapter of Hanford Story Released

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Department of Energy is releasing the first chapter of “The Hanford Story” to the public. The Hanford Story is a multimedia presentation that provides an overview of the Hanford Site—its history, today's cleanup activities, and a glimpse into the possibilities of future uses of the 586-square-mile government site in southeast Washington State.

The 17-minute video has been posted to the site's YouTube Channel on www.youtube.com/hanfordsite, as well as the Department of Energy's Hanford website on www.hanford.gov.

The Hanford Story will be delivered in a series of video-based chapters dedicated to telling the multi-faceted story of the site.

- The history of producing plutonium
- Impacts to the environment resulting from producing plutonium
- Progress being made in cleanup of the site
- Innovative technologies and solutions being used in cleanup activities
- Future uses of the Hanford Site

In addition to posting the first chapter of the Hanford Story on YouTube and the Hanford website, the video, along with several other chapters, will be available for display in a mobile kiosk in the coming months.

Representatives of the Department of Energy and its contractors are available to show the video to groups and answer questions. Requests should be directed to the Hanford Site Speakers Bureau on <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/HanfordSpeakersBureau>, HSB@rl.gov, or (509) 376-6968.

For more information, contact the Hanford Office of Public Affairs: (509) 376-7501.