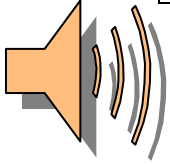




KING COUNTY SOUTH VOTER

June 2010

LWV Mission: The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS MONTH?

New/Old Board Meeting

June 2, 2010

Mary Ehlers

29704 3rd Ave SW (Its where we had our birthday party)

Federal Way, WA

Time: 10 a.m. to 1 (or so)

Lunch will be served.

For those of you not coming (all are welcome), GARDEN!!!

Directions from north of Federal Way	Directions from south of Federal Way
Take I-5 South Take the S. 272 nd St exit, EXIT 147 Turn RIGHT on to S 272 nd St Turn LEFT onto PACIFIC HWY S/WA-99 Turn RIGHT onto S DASH POINT RD/WA-509 Turn RIGHT onto 2ND PL SW (MAKE SURE IT IS 2nd PL SW) 2ND PL SW becomes 3RD AVE SW 29704 3 rd Ave SW is on the RIGHT	Take I-5 North Take the the S. 320TH ST. exit, EXIT 143, toward FEDERAL WAY. Turn LEFT onto S 320TH ST. Turn RIGHT onto 1ST AVE S. Turn LEFT onto SW 301ST ST. Turn RIGHT onto SW DASH POINT RD/WA-509. Turn RIGHT onto 2ND PL SW (MAKE SURE IT IS 2nd PL SW) 2ND PL SW becomes 3RD AVE SW 29704 3 rd Ave SW is on the RIGHT

PRESIDENT PRO TEM MESSAGE

I had the pleasure of chairing the Annual Meeting this year at the new YMCA in Sea-Tac. I was more than pleased with the turnout. Numbers make a difference!

The best part was the agreement of three members to serve as president as a triad. We have done this successfully in the past and the three that accepted for this year will be dynamite!

Needless to say, as a member nearing the 50 year mark in League, I was hoping things would work out and we would continue as LWV of KCS. (I joined League as a baby)

Several people signed up for various responsibilities that will keep things humming along. Now the new/old Board needs to plan program and activities for next year. Hopefully, ones that will peak your interest and get more of you involved.

Becky Cox

ANNUAL MEETING-REPORT

With 22 members present, the Annual Meeting was where the League:

- Adopted a budget
- Adopted program -- both proposed study items!
- Elected new officers
- Gave direction to the new board (what a list!)
- Enjoyed wonderful food and friends
- Heard amazing tales from Betty Colasurdo on her trip to Viet Nam

The budget was a “cross your fingers” budget but we are certain we can do it!

A **Study of Violence in County and Communities** was adopted and several members signed up to participate.

A **Study of the Environment and Green Policies** with emphasis on storm water was adopted with volunteers signed up for this, too.

The slate of officers was accepted with the addition of **Betty Colasurdo, Mary Ehlers and Sande Nelson** as a triad for president. We will be in good hands.

Directions to the Board re-affirmed our need to put an emphasis on membership growth.

LWVWA COUNCIL 2010 REPORT

Mary Ehlers and Becky Cox represented LWVKCS at council. Mary has written an eloquent report on council activities. Due to technical difficulties (due to older software) the report did not get in this Voter. The editor’s apology to Mary—we will figure out a way to get it in the August Voter.

NEW HEALTH INSURANCE CHANGES FOR WASHINGTON STATE

LWV Members:

The two health insurance bills that passed and were signed into law have generated a tremendous effort on the part of advocates, insurance companies, Medicare and state MEDICAID officials as to understanding and implementing all the requirements. As a SHIBA representative of the WA state Insurance Commissioners office, I hope to have enough information to begin a series of presentations on their effects by October, prior to the open enrollment periods for all MEDICARE plans. There are also a lot of changes implemented for non-Medicare plans plus changes for WA state only through the legislature.

Thank heavens, the state legislature left the APPLE Child health insurance alone.

Presentations will be at Senior Centers, Libraries and hospitals and wherever we counsel. And YES, we are besieged with requests for presentations NOW ! Hah ! The devil is in the details and we won't have anything concrete to say until the administrative details are published. The OIC website at www.oic.wa.gov has a few summaries and the Kaiser website has a 15 page summary that is almost impossible to summarize. Beyond that, advocacy organizations are publishing specific topics each day. We monitor many of these and plagiarize at will.

Among all these words was "NO, NOT YET" in there somewhere. This probably didn't answer your questions but we're trying. With something of this magnitude, it takes longer than any of us would like. The cost containment sections are not very reassuring and depend on too much pie in the sky for my taste. This stuff will change 6 times before we see the results so hold your hats.

Dave Lilly, SCOREDAVE @ JUNO.COM, LWV / KCS

VOTE SMART

Member Alert: "Vote Smart" K-12 curriculum will be distributed throughout the Nation's schools by the Council for Social Studies. I think it said August. Vote Smart is a good source of information on candidates and issues--

MaryEllen Hamblin

LWV OF KCS TAKES ACTION

How does the League take action? A notice came to the League regarding the plan to test the contaminated soil at the Lora Lake site. The plan was very technical and not something we could specifically comment on. However, we do have positions regarding toxic waste and we wanted to put the Dept. of Ecology on notice that WE ARE WATCHING! This was cleared with the state LWV Board since it is being handled by a state agency.

Subject: Comments on Lora Lake Apartments Site/Remedial Investigation

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF KING COUNTY SOUTH
May 21, 2010

David L. South, Site Manager
Washington Department of Ecology
Toxics Cleanup Program
3190 160th Ave. SE
Bellevue, WA 98008

Reference: Remedial Investigation Feasibility Study for the Lora Lake Apartments Site.

Dear Mr. South,

The League of Women Voters of King County South has reviewed the referenced document.

With the history of the site's use, it is no surprise there is a wide spread problem with toxic materials of all kinds on the property addressed by the study.

The League's primary concern is the follow-on plan for the removal and disposal of the contaminated soil and the compliance monitoring that will be done.

The League's studies of toxic materials lead us to expect that the Department of Ecology will order all the proper studies to cover the issues of removal, disposal and monitoring.

The Burien community needs to be protected from the mishandling of the Lora Lake Apartments site's toxic soil. A good plan is the best way to be prepared for all eventualities.

The League would like to be notified of the issuance of the next phase of the planning for this site.

Sincerely yours,

Becky T. Cox, President Pro Tem, League of Women Voters of King County South

P r u h # D f w l r q = #

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Statements were sent to our state Senators asking them to oppose SJR 26 that is an amendment to the Clean Air Act. The SJR is sponsored by Sen. Lisa Murkowski from Alaska. This was an Action Alert from national LWV.

Just as EPA is finally beginning to use the Clean Air Act to cut dangerous pollution that is causing global climate change, Senator Murkowski (R - AK) is trying to block that action with a resolution of disapproval (S.J. Res. 26).

This is a critical time for individuals to urge Senators to oppose the weakening of a law with a nearly 40-year track record of cutting dangerous pollution and protecting human health and the environment.

STATE LWV ACTION OF SIGNIFICANCE

TO: League Members,

The League of Women Voters of Washington Board of Directors has voted to support Initiative 1098 *(to establish a tax on “adjusted gross income” [as determined under the federal internal revenue code] above \$200,000 for individuals and \$400,000 for married couples or domestic partners filing jointly; reduce the state property tax levy by 20%; and increase the business and occupation tax credit to \$4,800. The tax revenues would first replace revenues lost from the reduced levy and increased credit; remaining revenues would be earmarked for education and health services.)*

We support based on League’s position on tax structures which states:
“Inequities in the distribution of the tax burden should be removed. Ability to pay is an important criterion. Flexibility and recognition of changing times and needs is important in tax policy. Income should be part of the tax base preferably through a graduated net income tax.”

We hope to have more information soon on the Yes on 1098 campaign.

League of Women Voters of Washington
4730 University Way NE, #720
Seattle, WA 98105
206-622-8961
lwwa@lwwa.org
www.lwwa.org

Initiative 1098: What if I want to gather signatures? Our League office has petitions. Call the office, 206-243-7161, if you wish to have one. The petitions need to be returned to campaign headquarters by **June 25th**.

Note to members: The LWVWA supports this measure but you, as a private citizen, may take any action (or not) you wish on this issue.

STATE AND NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Both state and national Leagues are printing League information on-line on the League websites. If you are using a computer, be sure to check both of the sites for up to date information. The suspension of printing of the Voters is due to an unprecedented lack of funds at both levels. Websites are lwwa.org and lww.org. National has listservs on a variety of topics for which you can sign up.

(Don’t type in a .com address-I did that once and wondered where in the heck I was! Ed.)

SINGLE-PAYER VASHON, WEST SEATTLE/BURIEN

There are a number of SP events and meetings happening. A good summary of most of them can be found at the current HCFA-WA Single-Payer Action Teams Update here:

www.healthcareforallwa.org/action-team-updates/

ON-LINE CALENDARING FOR THE LEAGUE

A Reminder

KCS now has an electronic calendar accessible by any league member on the internet. If you want to look at the calendar, type in the url:

www.google.com/calendar (to go to the website)
sign in (upper right corner) with: walwvkcs@juno.com
password: consensus

Mary Ehlers has agreed to be the "calendar master" so if you want her to add events or make changes please send her an e-mail (maryehlers@comcast.net) or call her at 253-941-1930.

We have not been overwhelming Mary with data to be entered.

DUES FOR 2010 – 2011

With this Voter is a brilliantly conceived form to complete and submit with your **DUES!!!** Our fiscal year is July 1 to June 30 so send your dues in now before you forget!! (Forget? Who forgets anything?)

Unit Chairs—we will be asking your assistance with follow-up on your unit members.

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS KCS
PO Box 66037
BURIEN WA, 98166-0037
206-243-7161**

2010-2011 Dues

Renewal Form

CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE, ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE (INCLUDE AREA CODE) _____

ANNUAL DUES

	INDIVIDUAL	HOUSEHOLD
SUSTAINING	\$75.00	\$112.50
BASIC	50.00	75.00
LIGHT	35.00	52.50

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO LWV-KCS AND MAIL TO; P O BOX 66037, SEATTLE, WA 98166-0037

DUES \$ _____
DONATIONS (always appreciated) _____
(NATIONAL & STATE PMP IS \$47)
TOTAL \$ _____

VOTING DISTRICTS

US _____

Wash. State _____

King County _____

**If you wish to receive LWV Voter and Study Material
by e-mail:**

E-mail address: _____

League of Women Voters of King County South is a 501 (c) 4 organization and donations are not tax deductible.

NEW

To make a tax deductible contribution, prepare a separate check made out to:

LWV of WA Ed Fund

Memo: **For Account of LWV of KCS**

CALENDAR

- June 2: Organizational Meeting 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or so, for New/Old Board (No meeting in July) Location: Mary Ehlers' home. Lunch will be served. See front page for directions.
- June 11-15: LWV of US National Convention, Atlanta, Georgia. You should be able to follow the proceedings on the LWV.org website.
- June 19: Vashon Unit's annual summer potluck at noon.. May Gerstle is the hostess. Her home is at 7124 SW Maury Park Road, Vashon. Call May if you are coming and to get directions. Phone: 206-463-0974.
- June 29: Vashon Island (location TBD) King County Shoreline Master Program Subject Review: Docks, piers, environmental designations and stabilization (including bulkheads.)
- August 17: Primary Election
- September: Units start up. Topic: "What Kind of Community Do You Want?"

LWV of KCS
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206-243-7161
walwvkcs@juno.com