



VOTER

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SAN JUANS
P. O. Box 784, Friday Harbor, WA 98250-0784**

February 2009

Calendar

**February 9, 2009 — Monday, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm at the San Juan Island Library
Monthly Membership Meeting**

The topic of the February meeting will be "Customs and Border Protection Within the Community." Tom Barnes, Customs and Border Patrol Officer and Acting Port Director will present. The meeting will be moderated by Carolyn deRoos.

**March 2, 2009 — Monday, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm at the San Juan Island Library
Monthly Board Meeting**

All members are encouraged to attend.

March 9, 2009 — Monday, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm at the San Juan Island Library

The topic of the March meeting will be Health Care with Susan Dehlendorf as moderator.

Upcoming programs are:

- April — *Environmental Topics* with Ann Jarrell, moderator
- May — *Annual Membership Meeting*

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Janna and Liz for the loss of
their beloved granddaughter.

Board meetings are on the 1st Monday of each month and Membership Meetings are on 2nd Monday. Annual Membership meetings are in May of each year. If you are coming from another island, call any Board Member and we'll arrange a ride from the ferry.

LWVSJ Happenings

January 12, 2009 – Monthly Membership Meeting

We had a very good turnout for our January meeting on education. Marty Huleatte was the moderator and introduced the five-member panel. First, Michael Soltman, Superintendent of the San Juan Island School District, gave an overview of the financial situation in view of the six billion dollar state deficit. Bill Evans, Superintendent of the Lopez Island School District, then talked about how the quality of education will be affected by the cuts that have to be made.

Boyd Pratt, Chair of the San Juan Island School District Board, discussed the requirement of the state constitution which includes the statement that it is the paramount duty of the state to provide ample provision for education for all children. Deb Nolan, FHHS PTSA President, is working in the political area to get our state senators and representatives to support education in the legislature.

Paul Le Baron, President of the Public School Foundation, reported that the foundation had raised enough money to keep the schools funded for this year but that we can't expect this to happen every year. He also mentioned that the district is joining other school districts in filing a law suit against the state for adequate funding.

One of our members had an interesting proposal. She suggested that adequate funding for schools be set aside before the budget negotiation process begins. Only then should the legislature consider budget cuts.

Nancy Wight

February 2, 2009 – Monthly Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at noon. Present were Nancy Wight, Pat Curtin, Joyce Lewin, Doris VanAlen, Marj Stanley, Janna Gingras, Marty Huleatte, Beverly Zapalac and Ann Jarrell. Minutes from the January meeting was approved with changes.

New Business

Nancy suggested that we raise dues by \$5 per member per year. The payment to National and State has been increased and this reduces the amount left for our operating funds to \$2.55 per member per year. Pat will put together a budget so that we can better evaluate what level of operating funds would be needed. It was noted that included in the budget should be the cost of registration for the State Convention which will be held this year. It was suggested that we consider holding a fund raiser. The budget will be presented at the Annual Meeting in May.

Nancy also suggested that we give Tom Munsey a donation for his time and expenses in recording our events. He has given us the CDs of the events he has recorded such as the Forums and the General Membership meeting on education. He posts these on San Juan Public Access TV as well.

She suggested a \$25 donation. A motion was not put forward as yet in order to give us time to consider the suggestion further.

Nancy noted that we need to have an updated TRY (They Represent You) pamphlet. We will ask Carlys Allen and Marty Huleatte to coordinate efforts to produce the update.

Washington State League Program Planning

State League requested that each local League respond to a call to review State Positions. All members were asked to evaluate and rate their personal responses to the positions listed on the WA State League worksheets. Nancy tabulated the results of the membership present and will send them to State League. Our results in priority order are as follows:

1. Education
2. Toxics in the Home
3. Health Care

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Jarrell, Secretary

LWV of Washington

MAKE PLANS FOR LOBBY DAY

Thursday, March 12, 8:30 A.M.

Columbia Room of the Legislative Building

Circle the date on your calendar, add a couple of stars and a few exclamation points. We need to be in Olympia in force that day to make ourselves heard on important League legislative priorities.

PROGRAM

8:30 – 9:30	Registration and Coffee and Conversation with Legislators
9:30 – 11:30	Remarks by Legislative Leaders and our own Lobby Team
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch

Rest of the Day Appointments with representatives and senators and staff

We'll have plenty of Legislative Priority cards for your visits as well as talking points papers on the key issues.

It's not too early to make the appointments with your legislators, and to invite them to drop by the Columbia Room to join us for Coffee and Conversation any time between 8:30 and 9:30 that morning.

LOBBY DAY REGISTRATION Thursday, March 12, 2009

NAME: _____ Phone: _____

Email _____

Make checks for \$20 (lunch included) payable to LWVWA. Mail this form to LWVWA, 4730 University Way NE, #720, Seattle, WA 98105.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 9 REGISTRATION REQUIRED

National LWV

League President Mary Wilson sent the following letter to members of the House of Representatives urging them to take quick and strong action against global climate change by supporting a cap on greenhouse gas emissions.

January 15, 2009

TO: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

FROM: Mary G. Wilson, President

RE: Climate and Energy Policy

The League of Women Voters strongly urges you to take quick and strong action against global climate change. Based on the best available science, we urge you to support a cap on greenhouse gas emissions for the year 2020 that is at least 20 percent below 1990 levels, without loopholes that will undermine the cap. We also ask that you support a cap for the year 2050 that is 80-100 percent below 1990 emissions.

Global warming is a catastrophic threat to our environment, our health and our economy. The scientific evidence is clear that climate change, caused largely by human emissions of greenhouse gases, is here now, already causing increasingly severe droughts and heat waves in some areas, intensifying floods and hurricanes in others, and triggering more wildfires. Climate change can devastate crops, create drinking water shortages, displace millions of people because of floods and increase the spread of diseases like malaria.

We believe that the United States, as the world's largest per capita source of greenhouse gas emissions, must set a firm limit, or cap, on these emissions. The cap must decline over time to meet pollution-reduction goals based on the best scientific information. Enforceable interim and long-term goals are needed to compel early and effective action and guard against irreversible damage.

Establishing the declining cap, based on science and without loopholes, is the single most important issue in climate change and energy legislation. While there are many additional significant issues, no other is at the core of the climate change problem. Without a scientifically-based cap on emissions, other public policies cannot hope to succeed in protecting against catastrophic damage to public health, the environment and economies around the world.

An effective control program must avoid loopholes or any weakening mechanisms that undermine or make the cap unattainable, such as unenforceable offsets or "cost containment" and "safety valve" provisions that would allow sources to continue emissions at dangerous levels.

It is our nation's responsibility to take immediate action to curb the environmental and public health damages we are already experiencing from greenhouse gas emissions, as well as those that threaten the future vitality of the Earth. We strongly urge you to support a cap on greenhouse gas emissions that is at least 20 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2020 and 80-100 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2050, without loopholes that will undermine the cap.

Mission of the League of Women Voters

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

The goal of the League of Women Voters

Is to empower citizens to shape better communities worldwide. Membership is open to any citizen over the age of 18 who subscribes to the League's purposes and policies. All LWVWSJ meetings are nonpartisan and open to the public.

Board Members of the League of Women Voters of the San Juans

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Member-At-Large, Beverley Zapalac	468-9040	beverlykz@centurytel.net

JOIN US TODAY!

YES! I want to become a member of the League of Women Voters of the San Juans.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Circle one:

(Individual Membership \$50) (Two Members at same address \$75) (Student Membership \$25)

I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to the League of Women Voters of WA Education Fund and have enclosed a separate check (to LWVWA-EF) in the amount of \$_____.

PLEASE RETURN TO:

League of Women Voters of the San Juans,
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Friday Harbor, WA 98250

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