



VOTER

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

January 2009

Calendar

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

This month's meeting will focus on the financial crisis faced by the school districts of the county. A panel presentation will include information on the current fiscal situation, on how to minimize the impact upon students, and on the next steps. Panelists include Michael Soltman, Superintendent of the San Juan Island School District; Bill Evans, Superintendent of the Lopez Island School District; Boyd Pratt, Chair of the SJISD Board; Deborah Nolan, President of the FHHS PTSA; and Paul Le Baron, President of the San Juan Public Schools Foundation.

All members are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

**February 2, 2009 – Monday, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
Monthly Board Meeting **Important Meeting!!****

In addition to regular board business, this meeting will be concerned with program planning. It is a time to think through what the League—both local and state — pays attention to, and whether there are areas of interest that we need to know about, or know more about, in order to better pay attention to the issues within those areas of interest.

A packet has been sent to each local league and is attached to the email that transmitted this newsletter. Pay particular attention to page 5 for the issues to be considered. **All members are encouraged to attend to participate in this activity.**

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.

**February 9, 2009 — Monday, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm
Monthly Membership Meeting**

The topic of the February meeting will be immigration.

LWVSJ Happenings

December 9, 2008 – Monthly Membership Meeting

Our annual Christmas luncheon at Vinny's was a festive and relaxing event. We had four guests who will, we hope, be future league members. Doris Shaller, the elections supervisor, gave us an overview of her department during this busy election year. We are looking forward to more gatherings at Vinny's in the future.

January 5, 2009 — Monthly Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at noon. Present were Nancy Wight, Pat Curtin, Joyce Lewin, Susan Dehlendorf, Marj Stanley, Marty Huleatte, and Ann Jarrell. The treasurer's report indicated there was \$250 in checking, \$247 in savings and \$273 in the education fund.

Membership Chairman Marj Stanley reported that there are 46 current members. This number will be reported to National. Four members were dropped from the previous year's list and there is a new member, Carlys Allen. A discussion of dues dates followed. Current year's dues are payable by May 31, 2009. Memberships paid in 2008 through May 31, 2009 are valid until May 31, 2010. Susan suggested that a list of those paid or owing be available at the general meetings. There was discussion about the due date and whether a different date would be more workable. A change of date would need to be approved by the membership at the annual meeting.

Next week's membership meeting will be on education. The topic "Education in these Dire Financial Times" will be moderated by Marty Huleatte. Specific speakers, date and time will be announced if different than the regular meeting time of Monday, noon at the library (*ed. note: See the calendar above for details on the meeting*).

Marj encouraged planning ahead for the State Convention, selecting a nominating committee chairperson, and determining details of the annual meeting. It was suggested that Kevin Ranker be asked to be the speaker for that meeting

Upcoming programs are:

- February, "Immigration" with Carolyn de Roos, moderator,
- March, "Health Care" with Susan Dehlendorf, moderator, and
- April, "Environmental Topics" with Ann Jarrell, moderator.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 pm.

Ann Jarrell, Secretary

LWV of Washington

The state League has issued its list of legislative priorities for 2009. They are as follows. For further information on any of these issues, see the LWVWA website: <http://www.lwvwa.org>.

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF WASHINGTON 2009 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

LWVWA

Strengthens Democracy

- public campaign financing for judicial positions
- same day voter registration
- restoration of voting rights
- inclusion of a civics class in the Core 24 Graduation Requirements

Strengthens Education and Early Learning

- a new K-12 basic education funding structure
- policies and programs that promote the well-being and safety of all children, including the Child Care Quality and Improvement Rating System
- professional development programs and adequate compensation for child care providers
- improved components of the child care subsidy and co-pay system

Improves Access to Health Care

- guarantee access for all residents in comprehensive, uniform, and affordable health services
- maintain funding for Cover All Kids, incentives for primary care doctors to work in underserved areas, the Health Insurance Partnership and public health

Protects Reproductive Rights

- maintain current funding level for Family Planning
- work to repeal the requirement that DOH apply for Title V funds to support Abstinence Only sex education programs

Protects Natural Resources and Human Health

Reduces Climate Change Gas Emissions

- implement an effective and fair system to reduce global warming gas emissions
- support responsible land use planning to decrease climate change
- enact energy efficiency and conservation programs
- prevent hazardous wastes, including mixed chemical and radioactive waste, from being deposited at any site until that site has been cleaned up
- protect children from harm due to exposures to toxic chemicals and other toxic substances

Promotes a Balanced Transportation System

- increase affordable and reliable access to public transportation
- decrease the number of single-occupancy vehicles on roads, bridges and ferries
- increase fuel efficiency by promoting development and use of alternative fuel sources across all modes of transportation

National LWV

LWVUS National Popular Vote Compact Study Update

The National Popular Vote study materials and consensus questions are now available on the National website, <http://www.lwv.org>. The electronic response form will contain the NPV

Compact Consensus Questions and will be available in January 2009. In addition, a National Popular Vote Compact Consensus Resource List is now available. The resource list includes materials to help members learn about the NPV Compact and related issues. These materials can be used by Leagues to supplement the National Popular Vote Compact Study Committee Pro and Con articles and other information found.

The Board has prepared consensus questions which we believe will, in true League-like fashion, spark an active and lively consensus discussion about this issue. As you know, the League arrives at our positions after discussion of all the aspects of an issue, not merely by voting up or down on the issue. The LWVUS study committee has provided you with very well-researched information on all sides of this issue.

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 for the year June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009.

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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