



# Spokane Area VOTER

Ann Murphy & Sandy Paine,  
Co-Presidents

October 2005  
VOLUME LXI/NO.7

VOTER Editor, CJ Tyler-Watson  
VOTER Publisher, Doris Tryon

*“The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government, and influences the public policy through education and advocacy.”*

## General Election Forums

LWVSA will sponsor general election forums :

- **October 11, 2005**, City of Spokane, City Council Chambers  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m. – City Council races  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. – Ballot Issues
- **October 13th**, 2005. City of Spokane Valley, Spokane Valley Library at 12004 E. Main,  
7:00-9:00 p.m.

*City of Spokane* Council races will be covered for Districts 1, 2 and 3 followed by the issues portion of the forum. Moderating will be **Martha Lou Wheatley - Billeter**, timing **Nancy O’Keeffe**, and floor management **Ann Murphy**. Forum will be taped by CityCable 5 for rebroadcast. See page 4 for replay times.

*City of Spokane Valley* contested council races for positions 2, 3 and 6 will be covered, along with the remaining 4 positions. Moderating will be **Ann Murphy** and **Nancy O’Keeffe** timing. This forum will not be recorded. **Mayo Sayrs** has organized this event.

## Upcoming Events

**November 5** -10:00 a.m. to noon -  
General Meeting on Washington State Tax Update

**November 29** – 11:30 a.m. -  
Elected Officials Luncheon

Mark these dates  
and watch for more details in upcoming VOTERS.

## October Units

There are six state issues, two county advisory votes, and one City of Spokane issue on the November ballot. At October unit meetings, members and their guests will learn about and discuss these issues. *Be an informed voter!*

Please bring to your unit meeting:

- This Voter (see page 5)
- Washington State Voters Pamphlet (if received)
- Guests and potential members

To learn more

- Attend or watch the League forums
- Read news articles
- Go on-line to [www.washingtonvoter.org](http://www.washingtonvoter.org) (State ballot issues pros and cons) and to [www.secstate.wa/elections](http://www.secstate.wa/elections) (initiatives, **State Voters Pamphlet**)

## Unit Meetings

*Remember, any member / potential member, may attend!*

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Unit 3    | <b>TBA</b> , 7:00 p.m.<br>Valley Library, 12004 E. Main<br>RJ Clemmons, Leader 924-8997  |
| Unit 4    | Oct.17, 5:30 p.m.<br>LWV Office, 2404 N. Howard<br>Ann Murphy, Leader 838-4549           |
| Unit 5    | Oct. 13, 9:30 a.m<br>Joyce Jones, Host, 1817 W. Dean<br>Phyllis Burwell, Leader 484-7573 |
| Units 7&9 | Oct.10, 12:30 p.m.<br>Rockwood Lane, 221 E. Rockwood Blvd<br>Call Sibyl Disch, 747-4008  |

## President's Perspective...

Partnership –

Being involved in League is all about partnership -

As an organization, this Spokane League has partnered with a variety of community organizations to provide service and program. Most recently, the League partnered with Spokane Transit Authority to provide program on transportation in and around Spokane.

We have partnered for many years with City of Spokane CityCable 5 to provide election forums, and this month we have a new partnership with the Valley Library to provide a candidate forum for the City of Spokane Valley council elections. These partnerships help to expand the visibility and the impact we have in the Spokane Area community, and we will be doing more!

You can find partnerships within our **Spokane Area League**. For me, partnership this year is all about working with **Co-President Sandy Paine**. We continue to explore the best way to mesh the talents and time that each of us have to give to this job. Communication is obviously a critical piece of making this partnership work for our organization. Your Board of Directors is partnering to bring you program for the year. The **Spokane Area League** has a new partnership – Units 7 and 9 are now one, and in a partnership within that group, four different people have taken on the leadership tasks for that group. It's all about making it work – and it is always more fun with a partner!

As members of this organization each of us can find partnerships at a variety of levels. You may find that your partnership is to come to a League meeting, bringing another member, or a friend who might like to join. Once at a meeting you become partners with all in attendance to study and explore the topic at hand – putting your heads together to learn. Others of you will find opportunities to partner with other members to further the work and study of the League. Sometimes a task might seem daunting – such as taking on a study or committee work, but with a partner you will automatically have someone with whom you can share ideas.

So, get involved with a partner and find new levels for involvement in your Spokane Area League, making both you and the League stronger!

**Ann Murphy**

## Splinters from the Board

- **Treasury Balance:** \$4,162.43.
- **Membership:** 18 renewals for the new year!
- **Transportation:** Agreed to do a survey of members at October Units regarding the Light Rail Project to develop a letter to send to Spokane Transit Authority (see page \_\_\_)
- **Spokane County Air Pollution Control Authority (SCAPCA):** Agreed to send a letter to Spokane County Commissioners in support of SCAPCA.
- **Mail-in Vote:** Agreed to publicize the support position that had previously been send to Spokane County Commissioners.
- **New Voting Machines:** **Sandy Paine** reported that she attended the Elections Office preview of the new accessible machinery to ease voting for disabled. Cost is \$5,000 per machine and 100 would be needed in Spokane County.

## Quotable Quote

“We are the government, you and I...”

*Theodore Roosevelt*

Member's Change of Address:

Christi Smith

10602 N Alberta Road

Spokane, WA 99208

(need new phone #!)

*The LWV VOTER is published monthly except in the summer by the League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area, 2404 N. Howard St. Spokane WA 99205. Members of the League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area subscribe through their annual dues. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan political organization which encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any citizen, 18 or older, may join the League of Women Voters.*

## Update Report Transportation – Spokane Futures

Thank you to all who participated in the televised forum on CityCable 5 in August and the two General Meetings in September. Thank you to Molly Myers for the program. We have learned that the anticipated decision by the Spokane Transit Authority (STA) board has been delayed from their October meeting. So, there is still time to learn more and have your voice heard.

If you have not had a chance to view the Forum, it will replay on October 2 at 12 p.m. and on October 11:00 at 1:00 p.m. Be sure to read the “Let’s Talk” Newsletter that you received last month.

Individually many of you have responded to the Light Rail Project survey (it is in the “Let’s Talk” Newsletter, on-line at [www.spokanelightrail.com](http://www.spokanelightrail.com), or at the STA Kiosk locations at North Town, Valley Mall, and the Bus Plaza).

Now, **LWVSA** would like to send a letter to the STA board, and we need to hear from more of you. We do have Transportation position statements both local and state, that support “doing something” (see box below), but the board would like a sense of where our members stand on the survey questions.

As a quick part of your October meeting, each unit will be asked to respond to these three questions:

1. Which option do you think works best for our community?  
\_\_ Light Rail \_\_ Bus Rapid Transit \_\_ Neither
2. What would you be willing to pay in order to support your preferred option?  
\_\_ \$1/mo \_\_ \$3/mo \_\_ \$5/mo \_\_ > \$5/mo
3. When should your preferred option be available?  
\_\_ now \_\_ 6 yrs \_\_ 10 yrs \_\_ 20 yrs.

**Remember**, we don’t want to use your unit meeting to discuss this issue, just get your feedback.

If you cannot attend a meeting, you can send your responses to [ann\\_murphy@juno.com](mailto:ann_murphy@juno.com) or mail to LWVSA, 2404 N. Howard, Spokane WA 99205

### LWVSA Transportation Position

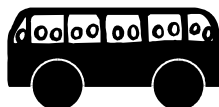
Support total improvement of all means of transportation for Spokane Region (’86). Support and promotion of non-motorized forms of transportation (’71, ’87)

### LWVWA Transportation Position

Support a balanced state transportation policy that defines the role of the state and supports increases in funding to provide adequate revenue and flexibility for a multi-modal system of transportation.

### Did You Know???

STA is expanding and changing bus service effective October 16.



### ACTION:

**LWVWA** supports I-901 because of LWVUS air quality position, “regulation and reduction of ambient toxic air pollutants.”

**LWVWA** opposes I-912 because of LWVWA position, “Funding for all modes of transportation should be adequate and predictable.”

**LWVWA** has taken no position on I-330, I-336 and I-900.

**LWVSA** testified in support of voting by mail, with recommendations based on LWVWA election methods position, “allowing voters the choice of voting by mail or going to a polling place.”

**LWVSA** has taken no position on the County mental health funding proposition or the City of Spokane tax increase.

## Legislative Receptions

*The Arc of Spokane and the Spokane County Parent Coalition* are hosting legislative receptions in the 3rd and 6th Districts in October.

**6th District** will meet with Senator Benson and Representatives Ahern and Serban, Tuesday, October 4th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the South Hill Library, 33224 S. Perry.

**3rd District** will meet with Senator Brown and Representatives Ormsby and Wood Tuesday, October 18th, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., in Room 200 of St. Lukes Rehab Institute, 711 S. Cowley.

No reception has yet been scheduled for the 4th District.

## Replay Times on CityCable 5

### City of Spokane Council Candidates

Oct. 15	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 17	12:30 p.m.
Oct. 21	9:00 p.m.
Oct. 23	10:00 a.m.
Oct. 25	1:00 p.m.
Oct. 26	9:00 a.m.
Oct. 29	9:00 p.m.
Oct. 31	10:00 a.m.

### Ballot Issues Forum

Oct. 15	8:30 p.m.	
Oct. 18	1:00 p.m.	
Oct. 22	1:30 p.m.	
Oct. 25	6:00 p.m.	<i>November</i>
Oct. 28	9:00 p.m.	<i>times</i>
Oct. 29	5:00 p.m.	<i>are</i>
Oct. 30	10:00 a.m.	<i>TBA</i>
Oct. 31	11:00 a.m.	

Last year Spokane Leaguers were introduced to *Cascadia Scorecard*, a different way of looking at how we consume energy.

Examine these two opportunities to learn more about sustainable living.



### Free Mini-Workshops And Family Activities

Fall is here! Let the experts help at the **FREE** Fall Festival at The Green Zone, **Sunday, October 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**, at N. 222 Havana, just south of the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center. Seminars and/or demonstrations will be offered on the following topics:

- 🌿 Fall Plantings (trees/shrubs)
- 🌿 Selecting Trees for your yard
- 🌿 Backyard Wildlife Habitat
- 🌿 Composting Demos & Tips
- 🌿 Indoor Air Quality: Lead, Radon, Asbestos
- 🌿 Bio-Diesel Technology
- 🌿 Bio-Diesel Bug on display
- 🌿 Music and kids' activities
- 🌿 Water Resources and Conservation

You can get to the event by taking the bus —Routes #90 and #33 will get you there! For more information, residents can call 625-6535 or visit [www.thegreenzone.org](http://www.thegreenzone.org).

### SELL REUSABLES ON-LINE



Spokane has its own electronic waste exchange web site that is helping to divert material that might have otherwise been thrown away. The Spokane Regional Solid Waste System joined the Washington Department of Ecology's "**2Good2Toss**" network in February 2004, providing access to the service for Spokane County residents.

The site is located at [www.2good2toss.com](http://www.2good2toss.com). Click on the Spokane icon and you'll get directions on how to get started on the road to recycling.

Spokane County residents, charities or businesses that sell used surplus materials are eligible to post free listings. Each listing will contain a description of the materials along with contact information and any cost or delivery information.

The max amount that can be charged for any one item is \$99.

So, if it's too good to toss, check out [www.2Good2Toss.com](http://www.2Good2Toss.com).



# LWVSA Member Material – Ballot Issues

Below are the concise descriptions of the ballot measures that will appear on the November 8 ballot. For complete statements of subject or ballot measure summaries, see your Voters Pamphlet or check the websites references on page 1.

## Washington State Ballot Measures

**Constitutional Amendment:** Senate Joint Resolution 8207  
The legislature has proposed a constitutional amendment on qualifications for service on the commission on judicial conduct. This amendment would permit one member of the commission on judicial conduct to be selected by and from the judges of all courts of limited jurisdiction.

**I-330** would change laws governing claims for negligent health care, including restricting noneconomic damages to \$350,000 (with exception) shortening time limits for filing cases, limiting repayments to insurers and limiting claimants' attorney fees.

**I-336** would require notices and hearings on insurance rate increases; establish a supplemental malpractice insurance program; require license revocation proceedings after three malpractice incidents; and limit numbers of expert witnesses in lawsuits.

**I-900** would direct the state auditor to conduct performance audits of state and local governments, and dedicate 0.16% of the state's portion of sales and use tax collections to fund these audits.

**I-901** would prohibit smoking in buildings and vehicles open to the public and places of employment, including areas within 25 feet of doorways and ventilation openings unless a lesser distance is approved.

**I-912** would repeal motor vehicle fuel tax increases of 3 cents in 2005 and 2006, 2 cents in 2007, and 1.5 cents per gallon in 2008, enacted in 2005 for transportation purposes.

## County Advisory Vote Propositions

- Shall the Board of County Commissioners of Spokane County direct the Spokane County Auditor to eliminate poll voting and conduct all primary, special and general elections entirely by mail ballot?
- Shall the Board of County Commissioners impose within Spokane County for a three (3) year time frame a one-tenth of one percent sales and use tax the proceeds to be used exclusively for the purpose of new or expanded mental health treatment services and for the operation of new or expanded therapeutic court programs?

## City of Spokane Proposition

The Spokane City Council passed Resolution No. 2005-110 with the intent to maintain police and fire services at 2005 levels and keep neighborhood libraries open five days per week, avoiding potential public safety lay-offs or fire station closures, by assessing a two-year levy of approximately 32 cents, which would raise the levy to \$3.60 per \$1,000 AV on real property; second year increase limited by the percentage change in the CPI.

- *Should this proposition be approved or rejected?*

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## MEMBERSHIP FORM



YES, I want to join The League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone-- Home: \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

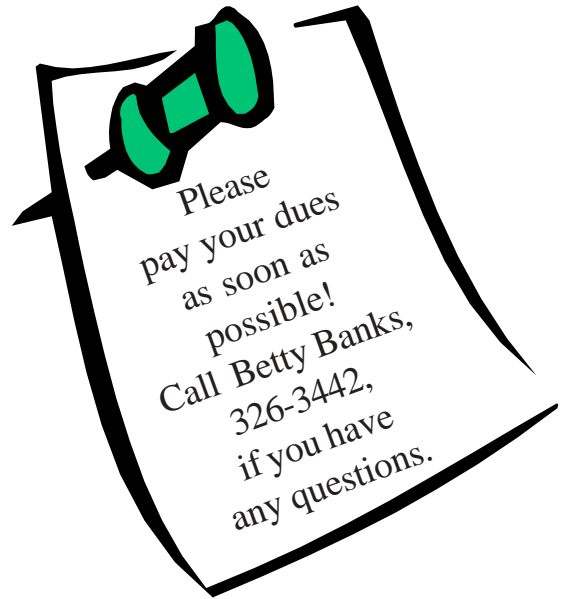
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to & mail to:  
LWVSA 2404 N. Howard St. Spokane, WA 99205

\$ 45. Student Rate
\$ 65. Individual
( \$25.20; State \$16; Nat'l \$23.80)
\$100. Household
\$100. Sustaining Member
\$150. Benefactor

# Calendar

- Oct. 5 Ballot Issues briefing, 10:00 a.m. @ League Office
- Oct. 10 Unit Meetings on Ballot Issues  
13 (see page one)  
17
- Oct. 11 City of Spokane, Candidate and Ballot Issues Forum, CityCable 5 @ 5:30 p.m.
- Oct. 13 City of Spokane Valley Candidate Forum, Valley Library @ 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 19 LWVSA Board Meeting, 2404 N. Howard @ 5:30 p.m.
- Nov. 5 General Meeting, Global Credit Union @ 10:00 a.m.
- Nov. 8 General Election



Please pay your dues as soon as possible! Call Betty Banks, 326-3442, if you have any questions.

## Get your copy...

“The State We’re In: Washington”

Books will be for sale at October Unit meetings & at November 5 and November 29 General Meetings. Cost is \$12. We will be using this book for study material later in the year.

## **LWV** THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF THE SPOKANE AREA

2404 N. Howard  
Spokane, WA 99205  
(509) 326-8026

[WWW.LWVWA.ORG/SPOKANE](http://WWW.LWVWA.ORG/SPOKANE)

### LWV/Spokane Area

*Co-Presidents:* Ann Murphy & Sandy Paine

*Secretary:* Sandy Haupt

*Treasurer:* Betty Banks

*Directors:* Pam Behring

Doris Tryon

Mayo Sayrs

Nancy O’Keeffe

*Nominating*

*Committee:*

*Chair:* Alice Stolz

Suzi Hokonson

TO: