



Spokane Area VOTER

Ann Murphy
President

March 2011
VOLUME LXVII/ NO 3

VOTER Team: Pam Behring, Mary Hughes,
Joyce Jones, Ann Murphy, Alice Stolz

"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."

LWV JUDICIAL PANEL: Exploring Alternatives to Incarceration

March 22, 2011 - 5:30PM – 7:30PM

**Moot Court, Gonzaga University Law School
721 N. Cincinnati**



A discussion of "problem solving" courts: Juvenile Court, Family Court, Drug Court, Mental Health Court, and others that focus on restorative Justice.

Moderator: George Critchlow, Acting Dean of Gonzaga School

5:30 – 6:00 Greetings and Light Refreshments

6:00 – 7:30 Program

sponsored by League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area with a LWV Education Fund grant

"Civility and Democracy in America" Conference in Spokane

Plan now to attend. The following events are free of charge and open to the public.

- **March 3** - Reception and Keynote Address at the Davenport Hotel - 5:30 p.m.

- **March 4** - Academic Forum at WSU, Spokane on the Riverpoint Campus (8:30 a.m.-6p.m.

Sam Reed, Washington Secretary of State, is confirmed as a speaker. Conference is sponsored by The Thomas S. Foley Institute.

Check the web page for up to date with information:
www.foley.wsu.edu/civility

ERA Re-visited...

About 20 people gathered for *Wednesday Night at the MAC* on February 16 to hear Nancy Engle speak on the Equal Rights Amendment efforts in Eastern Washington. The audience included Spokane and Tri-Cities Leaguers and MAC members. The group celebrated those efforts from the 1970's as well as League's 91st Anniversary date. Thanks to all who participated and helped.

**No Unit Meetings in March...
see you at an April unit!**

President's Perspective...

The time has come...to envision a change for the League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area. I shared with you all at the beginning of this year that I would not continue as President after this year. I have had the privilege to have fantastic Board members work with me over the past six years. But to keep moving forward, we need new involvement – whether it is brand new Leaguers, or revitalized long time members, this League needs you. And some of you no doubt have some great ideas how to move this League into a new era. We all need to look at the things that are the most important for this League to be doing... decided how each one of us can best contribute... and then step up and do it!

And on a personal note, I will be out of commission a little earlier than I had anticipated – I will be revitalizing my walk with a hip replacement surgery on April 11. I know that fantastic Leaguers will do what needs to be done to finish the year as we head to LWVSA Annual Meeting (May 12) and LWVWA Convention (May 20-22)

Ann Murphy

Volunteer Opportunity

Spokane Community College Civics Week Monday, April 11 – 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

College Civics Week is a program SCC does in conjunction with Secretary of State Sam Reed's office to promote civic engagement and voter participation. We would have voter registration materials and other citizen information ... a time to engage with SCC students. If you would like to help staff a League table, please contact Ann Murphy, amurphy@juno.com or 838-4549

Background Information...

Looking for more information prior to the Judicial Forum on March 22...

The Spokane County Corrections Needs Assessment Master Plan was drafted two years ago and is still good reading. The first 24 pages contains the Executive Summary. Check it out:

[http://www.spokanecounty.org/data/countysheriff/jep/Needs%20Assessment%20\(5Mb\).pdf](http://www.spokanecounty.org/data/countysheriff/jep/Needs%20Assessment%20(5Mb).pdf)

Pete Duffy

Splinters From the Board 2/17/2011

Treasurer's Report – \$5,735

Membership – 58 + 2 life time

- Judicial Forum - March 22 - Pam Behring reported that committee (**Diane Crow, Pete Duffy, Sally Phillips, Carol McVicker**) working on details -see page 1
- Approved support of the YWCA Stand Against Racism - April 29, 11 a.m. at Y
- Legislative Action - **Pam Behring** will draft a letter to the editor in support of LWVWA action in the legislature on state campaign issues.
- Reviewed Annual Meeting - will seek logistics chair, Nominating and Budget committees formed and working; no by-law changes proposed; reviewed speaker options. *Call to Annual Meeting* will be mailed to membership by April 14, 2011.
- **Ginger Kelsh** noted her involvement: Washington Public Campaigns (items before legislature) Police Accountability (local group continues to monitor); Violence Meeting at City Hall.
- State Board - Pam noted that Claudia Downing will retire in May from her long-time position as office administrator extraordinaire for LWVWA;
- Ann noted that she wrote articles for the state Voter.
- Program Planning: LWVSA report was sent to LWVWA. Local Program Planning results will be proposed in the *Call to Annual Meeting*.
- Wednesday Night at the MAC, Feb 16 - about 20 attended; Pam noted that application can still be made to Ed Fund. Will provide link to Nancy Engle's paper on LWVSA website.
- **Pete Duffy** still working to contact the Jail Coalition
- February Unit Meeting - 14 members; 1 guest. Report of discussion and follow up questions will be in next VOTER.
- **Joyce Jones** and **Pete Duffy** reported on progress of Housing Study -- much information for April units.
- March Board Meeting scheduled for March 10;
- TRY – copy to be included with this VOTER

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.

Dues Payment -- -- Clip this form and place with your bills for payment

YES, I want to join or renew my membership in The League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area

Name: _____ \$ 70. Individual
Address: _____ Distribution
City: _____ Zip: _____ Local \$21.30
State \$19
Nat'l \$29.70
Phone-- Home: _____ Work: _____ \$100. Household
\$100. Sustaining Member
\$150. Benefactor
Fax: _____ e-mail: _____ \$ 35. Scholarship(call for application)
\$ 35 Student

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

From the MAC

Two more upcoming women's history programs...

Discovering Your Flair: Finding the Leader Within

March 4, 2011

Spokane Community College, Lair Conference Center

Featuring keynote speaker Patti Marquis

Conference fee of \$35 includes lunch
(students \$15 with lunch, free without lunch)

Contact: Jenny Jamison, The Institute for
Extended Learning 509-279-6211

The purpose of the conference is to bring Inland Northwest women together in order to:

- encourage, educate and motivate them to embrace the challenge of leadership
- understand the need for connection between women
- offer the ideas and skills necessary to help them articulate and accomplish their educational, professional and personal goals for a new millennium
- advance women in our community so that women may be full and equal partners in the leadership of society and world through commitments they may make.

AND...

Wednesday Night at the Museum

A Living Voices Presentation: "Hear My Voice: Fighting for Women's Right to Vote"

March 9, 2011 -- 6:30 pm

Eric A. Johnston Auditorium, Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture, Admission: \$5.00

This one-woman performance presents an enlightening look at the women's suffrage movement.

LWVSA -- www.lwvspokane.org

Looking at Low Income Housing Issues in Spokane...

A young married couple expecting a child is doubling-up with friends and hoping to find their own place on a low-income budget. What is the first place they should look for low-income housing in Spokane? One of the best internet sites is <http://www.onestophousing.org/>

OneStopHousing is hosted by the Spokane Low Income Housing Consortium. Who are the other major players working to make quality, affordable housing available to individuals and families who earn less than 80% of the area median income? How great is the need in Spokane for low-income housing? What help is available for the renter? What help is available for the aspiring homeowner. Who provides financial support for low-income housing? These questions and more will be addressed at April unit meetings. Plan to attend.

Pete Duffly

Membership Notes...

Reminder -- if you have changed phone number and/or address, please to send it to the Office to be included in the new Member Directory.

Colleen Bennett, an active member of the Spokane League until she moved to Lake Oswego, OR, in the mid 1980's, died recently while wintering in Arizona. Colleen had served this League in many roles, including various Vice Presidencies and was slated to be President when she moved. Colleen continued her active League role in Oregon.



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF THE SPOKANE AREA
 2404 N. Howard
 Spokane, WA 99205
 (509) 326-8026
WWW.LWVSPOKANE.ORG

LWV/Spokane Area

President: **Ann Murphy**
 Vice President: **Pam Behring**
 Secretary:
 Treasurer: **Mary Hughes**
 Directors: **Pete Duffy**
Molly Hannan
Joyce Jones
Ginger Kelsh

Nominating Committee:
Alice Stolz, Chair
Ann Souza
Pam Behring

Calendar

March

“Civility and Democracy in America” -
 events open to the public:

- 3 Reception and keynote address, 5:30 p.m.
 Davenport Hotel
- 4 Academic Forum, 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., WSU
 Spokane, Riverpoint Campus
 (see Feb., 2011 VOTER for more detail)
- 10 LWVSA Board @ LWV Office, 5:00 p.m.
- 22 Judicial Panel @ GU Moot Court,
 5:30-7:30 p.m.

April

- 11, 12, 14 Unit Meetings
- 21 LWVSA Board
- 29 Stand Against Racism, 11 a.m., YWCA

May

- 12 LWVSA Annual Meeting (evening)
- 20-23 LWVWA Convention – Tri Cities



Consider the Possibilities!

The Nominating Committee welcomes your suggestions for candidates, including yourself, to serve on the 2011 LWVSA board. Positions open are president, vice president, secretary and 1-3 directors.

Serving on the board is an opportunity for members to join the leadership team that shapes and directs League work.

New to League? We welcome your new ideas and skills. In League we learn by doing!

A seasoned member? We value your experience and wisdom.

We look forward to your call.

Nominating Committee
 Alice Stolz, chair 455-8944
 Ann Souza, 230-9566
 Pam Behring, 534-2223