



Judicial Forum
Appellate Court
Tentative Date
March 22



LWV 97TH BIRTHDAY
PARTY
February 14, 11:30 AM
2404 N. Howard

VOTER

97th Birthday Party of the League of Women Voters

Photo at Top:
Voter Registrars
Bev Austin & Lin McGinn at the
Women's March on Washington
Spokane, January 21, 2017

Photo's on p. 2:
Newly Registered Voters
From the Women's March on
Washington Spokane

p. 3
10 Ways to Defend
Democracy

www.lwvspokane.org

www.lwvwa.org

www.lwv.org

The right to vote did not come easily or quickly to any segment of our society. Most of us know that only white men who owned land were able to cast votes in the early years of this country. In 1848 the first women's suffrage convention was held in Seneca Falls, NY. but women did not win the vote until 1920. Women are not the only segment of the population to have struggled for the right to have their say in how the United States is governed. And that struggle is not over. Today, in various states, the right to vote is being denied to many people in many different ways. The League is dedicated to preserving and enhancing the right of every eligible US citizen to vote.

Please join us for our Birthday Party on Tuesday, Feb. 14 at 11:30 at the League office, 2404 N. Howard, for conversation about and celebration of the right to vote.

There will be cake!

What the League is doing!

Voting Rights – We seek to protect and expand voting rights through advocating for proactive reforms such as expanded early voting and online voter registration, ensuring existing pro-voter laws are being followed and challenging all efforts

that limit the ability of voters' to exercise this basic right. The League actively opposes voter photo ID laws, advocates against barriers to the voter registration process, works to prevent last-minute Election Day barriers and helps millions of voters get the information and any required documentation they need to vote.

Improving Elections –We work to modernize our voting systems, streamline the voting process, promote transparent and accountable redistricting and make it easier for all eligible citizens to become active participants in our electoral process. In efforts to improve the voting experience, the League focuses on efforts to establish permanent and portable statewide voter registration, expand

early voting, improve polling place management, expand online voter registration and implement electronic streamlining. We also work to ensure compliance with laws like the Voting Rights Act (VRA) and the National Voter Registration Act (NVRA).

DC Voting Rights – We advocate for the rights of citizens of the District of Columbia to be afforded the same rights of self-government and full voting representation in Congress as are all other citizens of the United States.



Voter Services:

We have had a very busy first month of 2017. Suzi Johns, Sally Phillips, Linda Milsow, Susan Hales, Cathy Nemmert and Mary Lou Johnson were League volunteers who registered voters at the Naturalization Ceremonies at the Federal Courthouse in January. Bev Austin and Lin McGinn registered voters and promoted LWV membership at the rally before the Women’s March in downtown Spokane. Our voter registration services are viewed with much respect in the community for our professionalism, our reputation for providing fair voter information and the League’s well researched positions.



There are numerous Naturalization Ceremonies scheduled for the rest of 2017. We need more volunteers to fill those dates. Everyone who has participated reported an inspiring experience and a sense of truly making democracy work for everyone. We know every vote counts and we need to encourage the public to believe it as well.

Please contact Bev Austin by email at bjustin46@gmail.com or by phone at 509-981-7005 and sign up to help out with this important service. Most ceremonies take place on Tuesday mornings at 11:00 in the downtown Federal Courthouse and some are scheduled for 12:00 or 1:00 pm at Center Place in Spokane Valley. **Please give some of your time. We need you.**

John Trumble, 1819, painting of the presentation of a draft of the Declaration of Independence. This painting, featured on official US stamps and currency notes, portrays white men, many slaveholders, congratulating themselves on pronouncing the equality and “inalienable rights” of all people.



10 Ways You Can Help Defend Our Democracy By: Sarah Courtney 11/30/2016 at lwv.org

1. Sign the League of Women Voter's Petition

"I stand with the League to ensure that elections are always free, fair and accessible. I will work with the League to stop voter suppression tactics that threaten our democracy and the right to vote."

2. Become an e-Activist

Receive updates from the League and hold your elected officials accountable by taking action on the League's key voting rights and other priorities.

3. Volunteer Your Time

We are working to make a difference and actively engaging people in more than 700 communities. Sign up to volunteer!

4. Donate to our Defend Democracy Fund

Your support makes it possible for LWV to take a stand in statehouses and courtrooms across the country.

5. Spread the Word

Stay engaged every day, and leverage your social media followers to get involved too! Follow the League on Twitter and Facebook to find out how to make an impact.

6. Attend a Community Meeting

Learn about local issues and hear from elected officials. You can connect and organize with people already active in your community. Check your local government's website or contact your local League.

7. Register to Vote, and help others Register

Make sure your family and neighbors are up to date on their registration. The League works year-round at schools and community events to prepare eligible voters. Check out VOTE411.org for more information.

8. Contact your Representatives

Elected officials work for the people and need to hear from concerned citizens like you.

9. Run for Office

You can directly contribute to the direction of local politics in your own back yard. From school board to the state house, there are many opportunities to run for office and make a difference.

10. Write a Letter to the Editor

Newspapers print concerns from readers and love to hear about local concerns. Tailor the issue for your community and support local newspapers when possible.

Calendar		
February	14	97th Birthday Party of the League of Women Voters.
March	22	Judicial Panel: Court of Appeals Tentative date.
April	11	General Meeting
May	9	Annual Meeting
June	2-4	LWVWA Convention @ the Best Western Executive Inn, Seattle

Donations to LWV of Spokane and the Spokane Education Fund

The majority of the basic dues paid to LWV of Spokane are passed on to the state and national League offices as “per member payments” or PMPs. Our local League retains just \$24 of the \$75 individual membership dues. Thus, our voter education and advocacy work depend on donations from our members and other supporters. In addition to monthly educational membership meetings which often include outside speakers, we register new voters at every Naturalization Ceremony and other locations throughout the year, conduct candidate forums for the primary and general elections, hold a judicial forum each March where we hear from many of our local judges, and host an annual luncheon giving members an informal opportunity to meet and talk with local elected officials. Many ideas for future programs and actions were generated at the Program Planning meeting in January for which your support is needed.

Please consider making a donation to the LWV of Spokane or to Spokane’s account with the LWVWA Education Fund. Donations will be accepted at the February 14 League Birthday Party meeting. You may also donate directly to our local League via our website www.lwvspokane.org or mail a check to the office at LWVSA, 2404 N Howard, Spokane, WA 99205. Donations to the Ed Fund must be made by check payable to the LWVWA Education Fund with Spokane listed on the memo line and mailed to our office or turned in at a meeting. If you have any questions, please contact our Treasurer, Jan Carrington, by email at jancarrington7@gmail.com or by phone 509-844-1795.

The Board would like to extend a special thanks to the following members who have made donations this year to Spokane’s account with the LWVWA Education Fund or to our local League through Sustaining (\$110) and Benefactor (\$150) membership levels and general donations:

Education Fund: Ron & Ann Bailor and Linda Milsow

Local League: Pam Behring, Jan Carrington, Marianne Connelly, Molly Hannan, Mary Hughes, Joyce Jones, Sandra Kernerman, Carol McVicker, Linda Milsow, Ann Murphy, Cathy Nemmert, Teresa Overhauser, and Jean Wells

New Members

Please join us in welcoming the following members that have joined (or re-joined) LWV of Spokane this fall and winter:

Ann Armstrong
Linda Casimir
Christine Clark
Gail Furman
Susan Hales
Petra Hoy
Inga Jablonsky
Suzi Johns
Sandra Kernerman
Rebecca Long
Ellen M. Maccarone
Erin Ross
Suzanne Thompson
Rick Velategui

\$75 Individual Dues:

Local \$24 - State \$19 - Nat'l \$32

\$105 Household

\$110 Sustaining Member

\$150 Benefactor

\$ 35 Scholarship (call for application)

\$ 35 Student

From lwv.org:

In her address to the National American Woman Suffrage Association's (NAWSA) 50th convention in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1919, President Carrie Chapman Catt proposed the creation of a league of women voters to "finish the fight" and aid in the reconstruction of the nation. And so a League of Women Voters was formed within NAWSA, composed of the organizations in the states where woman suffrage had already been attained.

The next year, on February 14, 1920, six months before the 19th amendment to the Constitution was ratified, the League was formally organized in Chicago as the National League of Women Voters. Catt described the purpose of the new organization:

The League of Women Voters is not to dissolve any present organization but to unite all existing organizations of women who believe in its principles. It is not to lure women from partisanship but to combine them in an effort for legislation which will protect coming movements, which we cannot even foretell, from suffering the untoward conditions which have hindered for so long the coming of equal suffrage. Are the women of the United States big enough to see their opportunity?

League Drinks

Our quarterly get together for conversations with no agenda was held at Red Lion Inn's Ripples on the River lounge. About a dozen members and potential members gathered to share appetizers, drinks, experiences and opinions. We are all busy and LD has proven to be a nice respite. Our next one will be in April and we would love to have input as to preferences for a daytime or evening event.

Linda Milsow

Yes, I want to join/renew membership in LWV/ Spokane Area

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: H _____ W _____

Fax: _____ e-mail _____

I would like to receive the newsletter by ___ mail or ___ email (please check one) Please indicate amount enclosed: _____

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

[Pay by Credit Card through Pay Pal at www.lwvspokane.org/join.html](http://www.lwvspokane.org/join.html)

Thank you, AVISTA, for printing the LWV Spokane “TRY’s” and for supporting our Elected Officials Luncheon.

LWV Spokane Board of Directors:

Pres., Pam Behring; Vice-Pres., Linda Milsow; Sec., Sally Phillips; Treas., Jan Carrington; MLD Director, Lin McGinn; WEB page, Mary Hughes; Voter Service, Bev Austin; Forums, Susan Gray.



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

TO:

“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.”