

VOLUME LXXV  
ISSUE 10  
LWVSA 75 YEARS  
JANUARY 2020

# THE VOTER

**Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy.**

---

*The public is invited to all upcoming League events.*

## **Planning League Program Will Be Focus of January General Meetings**

Both meetings are at St. Andrews, 2404 N. Howard, with the same content offered at both of these times:

- **Tuesday, January 14** – 11 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- **Wednesday, January 15** – 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

In addition to voter service activities (registration and GOTV), League takes action on public policy. At the January meeting members will take a crucial look at how we translate study and consensus building, to adopting positions and then taking action.

Leaguers were introduced to state level advocacy in the Nov. 2 Action Workshop and the follow up General Meeting on Nov. 12. LWV at all levels can take action on specific legislation to affect public policy - - propose new, support or oppose existing legislation or policy. Action is initiated by the level of League that corresponds to the jurisdiction where policy needs to be changed. LWVSA can advocate at the local level – county, city, school boards – using established League position statements.

Spokane League members will start the process at the January meeting for LWVSA and will also provide input to LWVUS for national program planning. Please review the separate [Program Planning Handout](#) and its links to League positions in the [LWVSA Handbook](#).

**Special focus sessions:** On the same day, Tuesday, January 14, 10 a.m.-11:00 a.m., at the same place *prior to the morning meeting* are for those who want even more. Choose one of the following topics:

- **League Positions 101** – Take a deeper dive to learn more about the various policy positions (local, state & national) that the League uses as the basis for action on public policy. Will provide a good basis for using those positions as we talk about League Focus in the General Meeting.

- **Observer Corps** – Learn more about observing at public meetings, and how you might be involved  
**Please join us and be part of providing the direction for LWVSA in the next year!**

## LWVSA Recipient of Funds to Further our Work!

The League of Women Voters of the Spokane Area has been awarded a \$1500 (partial) grant from the Votes for Women Centennial Grant Program. These funds will support voter outreach activities with high school students in the Centennial Year 2020. The grant is sponsored by the Washington State Historical Society and the Washington State Women’s Commission.



**Votes for Women Centennial Grant:** Many thanks to the Washington State Historical Society and the Washington State Women’s Commission for funding high school outreach activity proposed by the Spokane League.

- January 16<sup>th</sup> is Washington State’s Temperance and Good Citizenship Day with League volunteers registering future voters at all Spokane Public Schools (District 81) high schools. This date has been chosen by the Washington State Legislature as an all-school registration event.
- During the week of February 17, high schools will host Spokane League members who will present on the founding of the League of Women Voters (This is in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the League on Friday, February 14, 2020).
- March is Women’s History Month, and Susi Gerard, District 81’s Secondary Social Studies Coordinator, will develop lesson plans for civics classes, based on her research of Spokane’s early Suffrage leaders.

Many thanks to the members of the Leadership Team (Board and Off-board members) and to Susi Gerard, Vicky Dalton (County Assessor), and Kelly Hatmaker, (News Director for KHQ) for their letters of support. This grant furthers the mission of the LWVSA in the following way.

The mission of the League is to empower voters and defend democracy. This project’s goals and objectives reflect this mission. The goals/objectives of this project are to build on the solid partnership with civics teachers in the City of Spokane high schools to 1) inform youth about their eligibility for voting, 2) register youth the vote, 3) convey the significance of women fighting for the right to vote and 4) emphasize the importance of voting in a democracy. *(WSHS Grant Application, September 2019)*

**The US State Department** has awarded the Spokane League \$2000 in recognition of the work done by the Spokane League in hosting the two Fellows from Myanmar (October 24-November 15). The planning committee for the Fellows’ visit included Bev Austin, Susan Hales, Lunell Haught, Ann Murphy, and Beth Pellicciotti.



**The Board of the LWVSA** approved the use of the US State Department funds, supplemented by a generous donation of a Board member, to buy 11 classroom sets of the LWVWA The State We're In textbooks (<https://www.lwvwa.org/the-state-we-are-in>) for use by civics classes in District 81.

High school visit with Fellows Mi Ko, Zin Thu, and Spokane League President Beth Pellicciotti.  
  
Photo by District 81 (SPS)

## Civics Education Recap...

**November and December 2019 High School Project:** Every semester, Spokane League volunteers present on the importance of voting and offer voter registration to District 81 high school students in civics classes. This year – thanks to outreach work by member, Christine Clark – Riverside High School was added to the schedule. League members presented to **1492** seniors in **51** classes!

Thanks to Susie Gerard (Spokane Public Schools Secondary Social Studies Coordinator) for organizing schedules, civics teachers for hosting League presenters, and the following members for their dedication to the League’s mission of Empowering Voters Defending Democracy:

High School Volunteers:

Bev Austin	Mardell Cochran	Ann Murphy
Michael Bell	Marilyn Darilek	Sylvia Oliver
Denise Campitelli	Susan Gray	Beth Pellicciotti
Bambi Carter	Shirley Grossman	Babs Velategui
Christine Clark	Judy Krueger	Jan Wingenroth

## New Member Bios – Welcome!

**Alison Wells** and her husband, John Marvin, recently moved from Bend, OR to Spokane. She spent her professional life in educational publishing, as both a writer and editor. Now she is a freelance writer and editor, while also continuing her lifelong work advocating for the environment and climate justice. When not engaged in these activities, she loves to cook, garden, and curl up with a good mystery. She and her husband have an adult son, Connor, currently living in Denver.

**Dawn Wiley Bayman** is Director of Investments and Partnerships at KSPS PBS where she has worked for 20 years. After graduating from EWU, she was a TV news producer covering special projects including debates and elections. She received a NW regional Emmy, graduated from Leadership Spokane, and spent 10 years as a part-time adjunct instructor at Whitworth University. She currently serves on the board of the NW Alliance for Responsible Media. Dawn and her husband have raised three sons.

**Michael Bell** is a retired CPA who worked in the healthcare industry for 35 years primarily as an outside financial consultant with hospitals and clinics throughout the western half of the country. He is a former Navy hospital corpsman. Mike and his wife have six children and 7 ½ grandchildren.

**Eileen Martin** As a retired art teacher, I enjoy my time with random creative projects such as teaching workshops, tiling, welding or doing mosaic, and some volunteering. Politically, I've been an activist since the Vietnam war. To keep sane, I read, kayak, garden, hike, and eat dinners with good friends!

**CJ Tyler** I've been staff at EWU since 1996, and the EWU Graduate and Undergraduate Catalog editor since 2007. My BA is in theater. I occasionally make marks on surfaces with ink, charcoal, and paint. I belonged to LVWSA 1998–2004. I worked with Alice, Pam and Ann. They taught me to edit the monthly newsletter and I managed the web page. It seems that the policies surrounding the drawing of districts needs to be reexamined, and renegotiated.

**Katy Telis** Having recently moved to Spokane, Katy Telis is very excited to join the League of Women Voters. As a lawyer, Kate is most passionate about civic education and voter registration projects in high schools and college campuses and is dedicated to inspiring younger generations to take a more active role in our democracy. Kate grew up in Montana, and she and her family (husband Alex and 4 year old Liam) are thrilled to be settled in the Northwest.

## Board Shorts

Looking Ahead –

**Tuesday February 11: 1:00–4:00 pm – 1004 N. Freya Street, Spokane County Water Resource Center**

Water as a resource will be the focus. This program has been suggested by Suzi Johns with her work with the League's representation on WRIA (Water: Resource Inventory Area) for the Little Spokane Watershed.

*(Note this monthly meeting will be at a different time and location).*

**Thursday, February 6: 5:30 – 7:30 pm - Shadle Park High School Auditorium.** Our Spokane League has agreed to partner with Spokane County Complete Count (SCCC) to ensure we have an accurate census count in Spokane County. We are sponsoring a public forum with SCCC on the Census on this date. All League members are welcome and are encouraged to get involved in the Census.

The to-be-formed Hospitality Committee will plan a **LWV 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration** for **February 14<sup>th</sup>**. Stay tuned for the place and time of this celebratory get together.

## Democracy Lobby Day 2020 – January 21: 9 am – 3 pm, Olympia Washington

### A Powerful Day of Advocating for Democracy - Join the League of Women Voters of Washington and Fix Democracy First

Your voice is powerful. Legislators constantly tell us how important it is to be present to advocate for good government. Democracy bills will help Washington State continue to lead other states in strengthening our democracy. The issues we will be advocating for on Democracy Lobby Day, expanding voting access, modernizing redistricting, strengthening campaign finance laws, preventing foreign influence on our elections, and promoting government ethics; make all our other priorities possible!

Join us January 21st in Olympia for [Democracy Lobby Day](#) where you will:

- Learn about critical democracy issues and bills
- Be trained by professional lobbyists
- Meet with your state legislators
- Network with others from your area

This event is open to all. Please encourage your friends and anyone who cares about a strong democracy to attend. Ann Murphy, LWVSA Director, notes: "Having attended the previous two Democracy Days, I have found it to be an energizing opportunity to be involved in the legislative process in Olympia."

[Please register now](#) so we can schedule meetings with your legislators and plan for food and material.

Carpooling and homestays the night before the event are available. Please indicate your interest when you register. Locally, contact Ann Murphy ([annmurphylwvwa@gmail.com](mailto:annmurphylwvwa@gmail.com)) for carpooling

## League of Women Voters Centennial

### Resolution to Celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the League of Women Voters

WHEREAS, on February 14, 1920, the League of Women Voters was formed and incorporated in Washington, D.C., in anticipation of the ratification of the 19th Amendment of the United States Constitution prohibiting the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex;

WHEREAS, the League was designed to help millions of women carry out their new responsibilities as voters by educating them about issues;

WHEREAS, the League is a civic organization that has fought since 1920 to improve government, and from the beginning has been nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing any political party or individual candidate, and continues today as a nonpartisan political organization;

WHEREAS, the League supports a vision of a democracy in which everyone has the desire, the right, the knowledge, and the confidence to participate;

WHEREAS, the League encourages informed and active involvement in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy; and

WHEREAS, League members, at all levels, support our democracy through volunteering thousands of hours registering voters and educating the public in a variety of methods and languages;

WHEREAS, the League will celebrate its 100th anniversary on February 14, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, proclaim February 14, 2020, as a day to celebrate the **Centennial of the League of Women Voters** in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

## Sign Up and Open Up: Keeping Our LWVWA Community Informed!

TWIL (*This Week in League*) is THE way friends and members get the inside scoop on neighboring Leagues and the State League issues, ideas, and events. It is quick to scan; there are [copies archived](#) on the [For Members](#) section of LWVWA.org. The goal is to have 100% member subscribers, and 95% of them regularly opening the link to check it out. If you have signed up for this and aren't getting it check your spam filter. If you haven't signed up for it, or you aren't sure, [sign up here](#). *Amy Peloff, League of Women Voters Washington*

## League Membership

You too can join in the activity, important work and fun of being in our League.

For complete information - go to <http://www.lwvspokane.org/join.html>

## League Leadership

### LWVWA Board Members

- ✦ President – Beth Pellicciotti
- ✦ Vice President – Marilyn Daniels
- ✦ Secretary – Jan Wingenroth
- ✦ Treasurer – Denise Compbell
- ✦ Director – Ann Murphy

### Off-board Positions

- ✦ Voter Services – Susan Hayes
- ✦ Strategic Planning – Sylvia Oliver
- ✦ Webmaster – Mary Hughes
- ✦ The Voter – Ilsa Kuhar
- ✦ Facebook – Sylvia Oliver
- ✦ Civics Education – Beth Pellicciotti



2404 N. Howard, Spokane WA 99205. (509) 326-8026 [www.lwvspokane.org](http://www.lwvspokane.org)